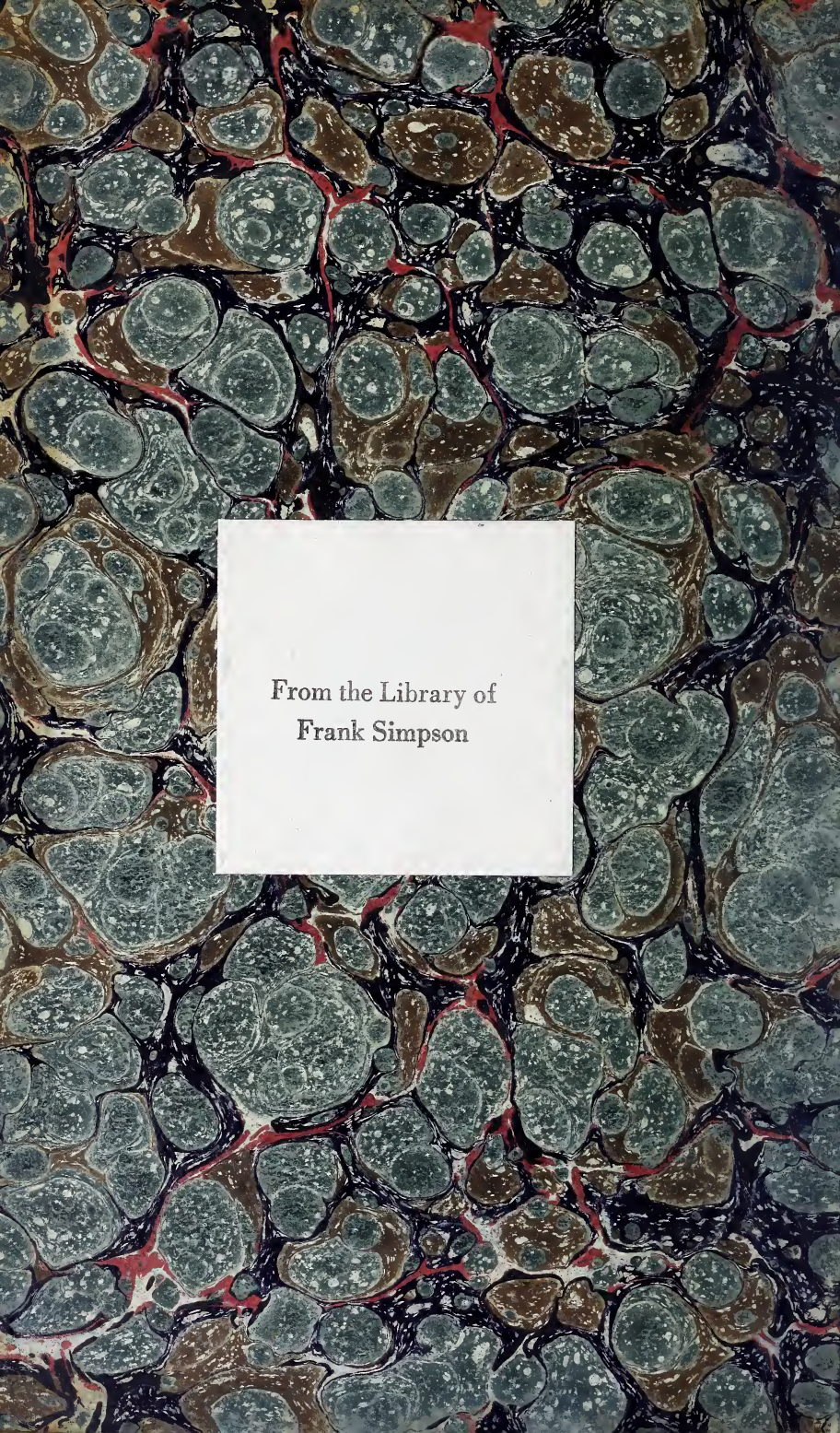
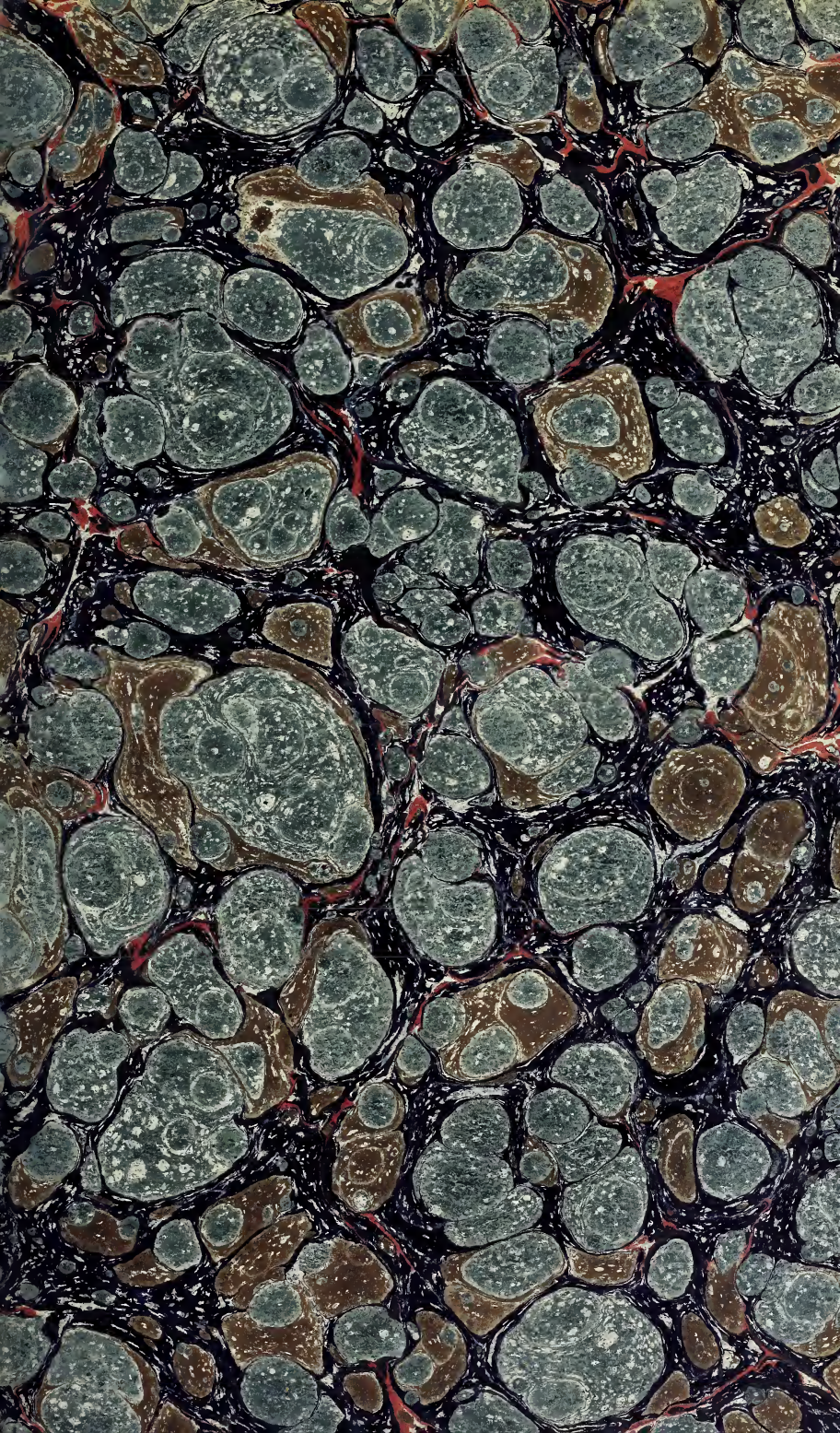




The background of the image is a traditional marbled paper pattern. It features large, irregular, cell-like shapes in shades of teal, grey, and brown, separated by thin, dark, branching lines. Interspersed among these are small, vibrant red spots and streaks, giving the overall pattern a complex, organic appearance. In the center of the image, there is a rectangular white label with a thin black border. Inside this label, the text "From the Library of Frank Simpson" is printed in a black, serif font, centered both horizontally and vertically.

From the Library of
Frank Simpson

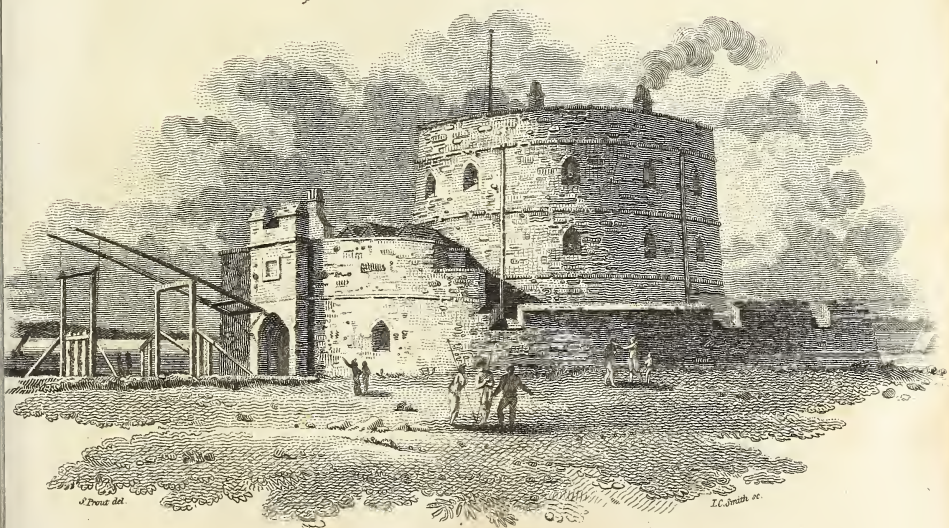




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THE
Beauties
of
ENGLAND AND WALES;
OR
DELINEATIONS
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL
and
DESCRIPTIVE.
Vol. VI.



Calshot Castle, Hampshire.

London: Published by Vernon & Hood, Poultry, Aug. 1, 1825.

THE
BEAUTIES
OF
England and Wales;
OR,
DELINEATIONS,
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE,
OF
EACH COUNTY.

EMBELLISHED WITH ENGRAVINGS.

BY
EDWARD WEDLAKE BRAYLEY AND JOHN BRITTON.

VOL. VI.

“O, ALBION! fairest Isle, whose verdant plain
Springs beauteous from the blue and billowy main;
In peaceful pomp whose glittering cities rise,
And lift their crowded temples to the skies;
Whose streams reflect full many an attic pile,
Whose velvet lawns in long luxuriance smile;
Whose navy on the broad brine awful rolls;
Whose commerce glows beneath the distant poles:”
Thee! O my country! all my soul reveres,
And admiration swells with ripening years.

LONDON:

Printed by Thomas Maiden, Sherbourne-Lane,
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J. & A. ARCH, W. J. & J. RICHARDSON,
J. HARRIS, AND E. CROSEY.

1805.

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TO
THE RIGHT HONORABLE
GEORGE ROSE,
ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONORABLE PRIVY COUNCIL,
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE THEREOF FOR
THE AFFAIRS OF TRADE,
JOINT PAYMASTER-GENERAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES,
A TRUSTEE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM,
AND ONE OF THE VERDERERS OF THE NEW FOREST,
THIS VOLUME
OF
TOPOGRAPHICAL DELINEATIONS
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY
HIS OBLIGED AND
OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANTS,

E. W. BRAYLEY,

AND

J. BRITTON.

December 1, 1854.

THE HISTORY OF THE

PROGRESS OF THE ART OF PRINTING IN GREAT BRITAIN

FROM THE FIRST BEGINNINGS TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY JOHN STURGEON

IN TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I.

LONDON: PRINTED BY J. STURGEON

AT THE PRESS OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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IN THE YEAR 1801

BY J. STURGEON

THE
BEAUTIES
OF
England and Wales.

HAMPSHIRE.

THE *Aborigines* or original inhabitants of HAMPSHIRE, who had migrated from the Continent in the first ages of the population of Europe, appear to have been dispossessed by the *Belgæ*, who were originally of German extraction, but had crossed the Rhine into Gaul, and thence extended their conquests into Britain, between two and three centuries prior to the arrival of Cæsar. They consisted of various clans, distinguished by their several names; but that which had proved itself the most valiant, retained the national name of *Belgæ*,* without any adjunct, in token of pre-eminence. This tribe seated itself in the central parts of Hampshire, and, previous to the Roman invasion, had attacked and driven out the *Segontiaci*, who inhabited the northern extremity of Hampshire, and the adjoining parts of Berkshire, bordering on the river Kennet.

The primary name of Hampshire was *Gwent*, or *Y Went*, a term descriptive of its open downs; and hence the appellation *Caer Gwent*, or City of the Gwentians, now Winchester. The Lower Gwentians, or *Segontiaci*, derived their name from *Isgwent*, *Isgwentwg*, or *Isgwentog*, terms allusive to their relative situations

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to

* “The meaning of the name of *Belgæ* seems to be preserved in the Welsh: *Belj* implies that which breaks out, makes irruption or ravages; so *Belgau*, *Belgiaid*, *Belgwyr*, *Belgwys*, and *Gwyr Belg*, might be rendered irruptors, depredators, ravagers, or warriors.”

to the proper Gwentians, and had *Vindonum*, or Silchester, for their chief city.

Between the period of the arrival of Cæsar, and that of the entire subjugation of Britain by the Romans, the Belgæ had obtained dominion over the greatest part of the tract stretching between the British Channel and the Severn; but being at length subdued by the Romans under Vespasian, their country was included in the province named *BRITANNIA PRIMA*. On the departure of the Romans, the government of Hampshire reverted to the Britons, who bravely defended themselves against the Saxon powers for many years; but their united forces, under Natanleod, were at length defeated by Cerdic, in a general battle fought in the New Forest. The Saxon chief pursuing his victory, founded the kingdom of the West Saxons, making Winchester his residence and capital; and in that city, Egbert, his descendant, caused himself to be crowned *King of all England*. Under the Saxon domination, the original name of the country was changed into *Hantunscyre*, from which its present appellation is evidently derived.

Hampshire is bounded on the east by Surrey and Sussex; on the south by the British Channel; on the west by Wiltshire and Dorsetshire; and on the north by Berkshire. It extends in length, from north to south, about fifty-five miles; in breadth, from east to west, about forty: its circumference is about 150 miles. Its figure approaches nearest to that of a square; with a triangular projection at the south-west angle. In the survey drawn up for the Board of Agriculture, its superficial contents are estimated at 1,812,000 acres, but this is probably an exaggerated calculation. Its limits on the south side, are the numerous creeks and inlets formed by the sea; on the west and east they are mostly artificial; on the north, they are chiefly composed by the rivers Enborn and Blackwater. It is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, containing 253 parishes,* one city, twenty market-towns, and about 1000 villages. The number of houses, according to the population act, amounts to 39,257; the number of inhabitants to 219,656: of the latter 105,667 are males, and 113,989 females. The whole county, together

* Driver's Agricultural Survey.

together with the Isles of Wight, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, and Alderney, are comprehended within the diocese of Winchester. Its parliamentary representatives are twenty, exclusive of those for Newtown, Newport, and Yarmouth, in the Isle of Wight; viz. two for the shire, and two for each of the following places; Winchester, Southampton, Portsmouth, Petersfield, Stockbridge, Christchurch, Lymington, Whitechurch, and Andover.

The surface of Hampshire is beautifully varied with gently rising hills, and fruitful vallies, adorned with numerous seats and villages, and interspersed with extensive woodlands. Its southern parts were the first peopled, and there the population is still the greatest; the mildness of the seasons, and the convenience of the ports, operating as strong inducements to continued residence. The chief part of the county is inclosed; though large tracts of open heath, and uncultivated land, remain in the vicinity of Christchurch, and on the borders of Dorsetshire. The aggregate extent of the waste lands, exclusive of the forests, is supposed to include between 90 and 100,000 acres. The *Soils* are extremely numerous, but the far greatest proportion is tending to chalk; and a ridge of chalk hills, or downs, may be traced across the county, in the parallel of Winchester. On the north side, bordering on Berkshire, the soil is deep, and very productive: here, great quantities of corn are annually grown, and the elm and oak flourish greatly; though the latter, in many instances, has been originally transplanted. On the acclivities of the hills towards Basingstoke, the land is in general very deep, and strong, with chalk beneath: round Whitechurch it is less deep, and chalky, but produces good crops of corn, and saintfoin. From Overton towards Stockbridge, and thence to Redbridge, a beautiful vale extends, divided into well-watered meadows, and producing from two to three loads of hay per acre. Round Andover the land is high, and down-like; yet the soil, though thin, is very favorable to the growth of barley: towards Romsey, it is yet more fertile; and the land is well cultivated, and interspersed with woods, and fine hedge-row timber. South and south-west of Romsey, the country is principally occupied by the *New Forest*; though very large open tracts still remain,

as already stated, on the borders of Dorsetshire, and in the neighbourhood of Christchurch: the soil of the New Forest is chiefly loam and gravel. The vicinity of Redbridge is distinguished for its valuable salt-marshes. The parishes eastward of Alton, and bordering on Surrey, are chiefly appropriated to the growth of hops, the plantations of which have been greatly increased of late years, through the reputation of the *Farnham* hops; yet, though equally good, and produced in contiguous grounds, such is the fascination of a name, that the price they bear at market, is generally from forty to fifty shillings per hundred weight below those with the *Farnham* mark. The hop grounds are supposed to occupy about 800 acres: the produce varies considerably, but on an average, may be estimated at about five cwt. per acre. Towards Petersfield the land is more open, with a considerable quantity of down; approaching Portsmouth, it is more inclosed, and interspersed with timber and underwood. Round Fareham and Warnford the hills are chalky, and partly covered with beech wood: here also are extensive downs; and on the banks of the river Itchin are some valuable water meadows.*

The rotation of crops, on the more rich or low lands, is generally wheat, turnips, barley with seeds, and mowed; the average produce, is from thirty to thirty-two bushels an acre: on the high grounds, the average produce of wheat is about sixteen bushels per acre; of barley, twenty-two bushels; and of oats, twenty-four bushels.

* "This county," observes the author of the Agricultural Survey, "is particularly famous for water meadows; which are extremely productive, and, in general, well attended to. The farmers are, in many instances, at considerable expence in purchasing a supply of water, besides the first expence; which is from five to six pounds per acre, exclusive of the continual repair of the sluices, &c. They are usually shut up in November, or the beginning of December, and are watered alternately every other week, till the beginning of March, when they are fed off, for about five or six weeks, with ewes and lambs: the water is afterwards turned on as before, till the meadows are fit to be mowed, when, in general, they produce from two to three loads per acre, and are frequently cut twice in a season."

bushels. Pease, rye-grass, trefoil, saintfoin, white and red clover, are also much cultivated. The principal *Manures*, are peat ashes, chalk, or lime; marle, and sea-weed. The system of drill husbandry is but little practised. The plough, on the heavy lands, is mostly drawn by four horses; light ploughing is performed by a single-wheeled plough, and two or three horses. The team-horses are particularly fine; the farmers vying with each other in the appearance of their cattle.

Hampshire has obtained considerable repute as a breeding country, and particularly of *Sheep* and *Hogs*. The original Hampshire sheep is horned, and white-faced; and though this breed has been much improved, the South-down has been introduced of late years, and obtained the preference in many parts; as they are found to fatten on a less quantity of food. The flocks are in general very large; and the downs are mostly covered with them: the whole number of sheep annually fed in the county, is supposed to amount to 350,000. In the uplands, the practice of folding is pretty general; yet, in the lower parts, it is little attended to. For its breed of *Hogs*, Hampshire is proverbially famous; and this breed is of the largest kind, the farmers encouraging it as the most profitable. Those in the vicinity of the forests are principally fed on acorns, and beech-mast, which give them a superiority over most others in the kingdom; and their weight is from sixteen to forty score. Formerly, these animals were chiefly killed for bacon; but of late years, great numbers of those for home consumption, have been pickled down in large tubs; about three pecks of salt, and a quarter of a pound of saltpetre, are allotted to a hog of twenty score. The bones and the lean are previously taken away; and the fat being suffered to continue in the brine, nearly a whole year before it is used, becomes more firm, and goes further. Many *Horses* are bred in the forests, but they are in general extremely small; and from the scantiness of their food, have the appropriate appellation of heath-croppers. The *Cows* are not of any particular character; the Welsh breed has been lately introduced; yet as the dairies are but few, not much attention is given to their improvement. Many hives of *Bees* are kept in different parts of the county; the

1

honey

honey is in general of a fine flavour; and particularly that made by the bees who obtain their food from the downs.

A considerable quantity of land in this county is held under the Bishop of Winchester, as well as under the Dean and Chapter, upon lease for twenty-one years, renewable every seven on paying a fine; which is injudiciously increased in proportion to the improvements that have been made. Many estates belonging to other persons, are also held on lease for three lives, not renewable; and others expire at a certain time, or at the death of a tenant; customs that tend very much to prevent improvements.

A very considerable proportion of Hampshire is occupied by the Forest of *Alice Holt and Woolmer*, the Forest of Bere, and the New Forest. The former is separated into two portions, by intervening private property: its limits comprehend about 15,493 acres; 8694 of which belong to the Crown. On a survey made of the timber of this Forest, in the year 1608, 1301 oak trees were returned as fit for the use of the navy; and 23,934 loads, as defective: this quantity has since greatly decreased; and in 1783, the sound and defective wood together, amounted to only 15,142 loads; and those were of trees mostly of one age, that is from 100 to 120 years, without any having been planted to succeed them. In the division called Alice Holt, which contains about 2744 acres of Crown lands, the growing timber has, by a late valuation, been estimated at 60,000*l.* worth. This Forest is situated on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. The *Forest of Bere* extends northward from the Portsdown Hills, and, according to the perambulation made in the year 1688, and now considered as the boundary, it includes about 16,000 acres, of which one third is inclosed. This Forest is divided into two walks, respectively named East and West, to each of which are annexed several smaller divisions, called *purlieus*, though not properly so, as all of them are subject to the forest laws. From a survey of the timber in this Forest, in the year 1783, it appears that the quantity then growing, was only a twenty-eighth part of what was standing in the year 1608; and from the many encroachments made in modern times, its boundaries were continually decreasing. It contains about 200 head of deer, from

which about seven brace of bucks are annually killed. The officers of this Forest, are a Warden, four Verderers, two Master Keepers, two Under Keepers, a Ranger, a Steward of the Swainmote Court, twelve Regarders, and two Agistors. The *New Forest* is particularly celebrated in history, from the vast enlargement of it by William the Conqueror, and from its being the scene of the accidental death of his successor, William Rufus. Its present appellation has an evident reference to the alteration made in its extent by the Conqueror; but a more ancient name of this district was *Itene*, or *Y. Thene*: it was also called *Natanleod*, from the British chieftain, who was here conquered by Cerdic, the founder of the West Saxon Monarchy. The importance of this tract is too great to be passed over cursorily; and a more extended description will be inserted under that part of the county which it occupies.

The Mineral productions of Hampshire are but few; and those mostly confined to the cliffs on the sea coast, particularly in the neighbourhood of Lymington, Hordwell, and Christchurch. The cliffs near Hordwell are upwards of 100 feet high, and abound with large nodules of iron ore, and pebbles, or flints; many of which contain fossil shells, or their impressions, of various and scarce species. These are found in a bluish kind of clay, or marle, which extends beneath a stratum of sand and gravel, about fourteen or fifteen feet thick, and reaches below the level of the sea. Many specimens of these shells were deposited in the British Museum, by the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who published a description of them under the title of *Fossilia Hantoniensia*.

The *Manufactures* of this county are but few; and those are chiefly of cloth, as shaloons, and coarse woollens. Large quantities of malt are annually made at Andover; and at Wey-Hill, in its neighbourhood, is held the greatest fair in England for hops, sheep, cheese, and some other commodities. At Lymington is a manufacture of salt; but this business has much decreased from what it was formerly.

The principal RIVERS in Hampshire, are the Itchin, the Avon, the Boldre Water, the Exe, the Anton, and the Tese, or Test; several

veral smaller streams rise in the north-west parts, but soon quit the county in their passage to the Thames.

The *Itchin* has its source in the vicinity of Alresford, near the middle of Hampshire, and being soon increased by the Alne, flows westward to King's Worthy; where suddenly turning to the south, it passes Winchester, and the Hospital of St. Cross. Thence gliding through fertile meadows, it flows by Twyford, and passing Bishopstoke, hastens to unite its stream with the Southampton Water, which it falls into about half a mile eastward from the town.

The *Avon* enters the county from Wiltshire, and meandering in several channels near the western edge of the New Forest, is much increased by different rivulets rising in that district. This part of its course is well wooded, and much enlivened by the villas that ornament its banks. Passing Fordingbridge and Ringwood, it flows through a less interesting sandy level towards Christchurch; below which it receives the waters of the Stour from Dorsetshire, and conveys them with it to the sea in Christchurch Bay.

The *Boldre Water* is formed by various springs, that rise in the New Forest, and mostly unite above Brokenhurst; whence they, in a single stream, pass Boldre, and Lymington, to the sea. The *Exe* also has its source in the same district, and beginning to widen near Beaulieu, opens in a broad estuary to the sea below Exbury.

The *Anton* rises in the north-west angle of the county, and flowing through part of Andover, has its stream increased by the Till-hill Brook; and afterwards runs into the Tese, about one mile below Whirwell. The *Tese* has its origin in the neighbourhood of Whitchurch, and after its junction with the Anton, assumes a southerly course, and passing Stockbridge and Romsey, receives several small rills from the New Forest, near Redbridge; below which it opens, and forms the head of the *Southampton Water*. This is properly an arm of the sea, extending from above Southampton to Calshot Castle, and rendered exceedingly picturesque by its woody and irregular banks. Near *Hamble*, it is joined by the river of that name, which, swelling from an inconsiderable stream into a broad estuary, descends into it from the interior of Hampshire.

WINCHESTER,

WINCHESTER.

THIS eminent and very ancient city, stands on the eastern declivity of a hill, gradually sloping to the river Itchin, the chalky cliffs of which, combined with the whiteness of the surrounding soil, is affirmed by Camden to have occasioned its original name, which was *Caer Gwent*, or the *White City*, an appellation that, from similar circumstances, was also bestowed on two other British cities, viz. *Venta Silurum*, in Monmouthshire, and *Venta Icenorum*, in Norfolk. Its present name is most probably a corruption from *Gwent-chestre*; and was not derived, as commonly imagined, from the fact of a royal weavery being established here under the Roman Emperors.

The early history of Winchester is involved in all the confusion of those distant ages, which, from the numerous romantic legends interwoven with their records, have been truly termed fabulous. Its origin, unquestionably remote as it is, has been carried to an era far beyond belief, and even made antecedent to the foundation of Rome itself, by a period of nearly one hundred and forty years.*

The

* "We have been told by former historians, that this city was built by a King of Britain, named Ludor Rous Hudibrass, 892 years before the birth of Christ, or 139 years before the foundation of Rome: but the very existence of such a King, as the above named, rests upon no better foundation than certain romantic tales, invented fifteen hundred years after the period in question, by British writers, in order to prove that their ancestors, no less than the Romans, were descended from the heroes of Troy. We cannot admit, as a real historical fact, that Winchester was founded by this pretended Monarch of our Island, without also believing that London was built by a supposed great grandson of Æneas, called Brutus, as a substitute for the ancient Troy, after having conquered all Greece, and the greatest part of Gaul; and that Bath was built and enriched with the inextinguishable fire of Minerva, by Bladud, the son and successor of our Hudibrass; with many other fables equally romantic, which all rest on the same authority."

History, Civil and Ecclesiastical, &c. of Winchester; by the Rev.

J. Milner, M. A. F. S. A.

The celebrated Dunwallo Mulmutius, who is represented as contemporary with Darius of Persia,* has been also brought in to embellish its history, and he is recorded as having erected its walls, though on the same insufficient evidence, as ascribes its origin to Hudibrass, eighth in succession from Brute, or Brutus, a supposed great grandson of Æneas of Troy.

“After our city is stripped of all these false honors,” observes Mr. Milner, “she will nevertheless still retain a well-founded claim to as high an antiquity as that of perhaps any other city within the compass of the Island. It is clear, both from argument and authority,† that South Britain, at least, was first peopled from the opposite coast of Gaul, and particularly from the Armorican coast of the Celtic Gauls, whom, in language, manners, and religion, they so much resembled; that the southern coast of the same was first inhabited, and that thence population gradually spread itself into other parts of the country.‡ This being so, and the relative situation of the twenty-eight original British cities considered,§ we can have no difficulty in pronouncing that the first Celtic settlers, embarking at the nearest Armorican port to Britain, that of the
Unelli,

* Galfrid.—Rudb. dicet.—De Reg. Brit.—Mat. West. Æt. V.

† “Cæsar gives no opinion of his own concerning the first inhabitants of Britain, he only reports their own accounts, which were so agreeable to their superstition, and to their prejudices against the new colonies from Belgium. Tacitus having considered this matter, concludes as follows: “In universum æstimanti Gallos vicinum solum occupasse credibile est.” Bede says; “In primis hæc insula Britones solum, a quibus nomen accepit, incolas habuit, qui de *Tractu Armoricano*, ut fertur, Britanniam advecti, australes sibi partes illius vindicarunt.” The same is the sense of the Saxon Chronicle, according to its true reading; as also amongst modern writers, as Camden, Borlase, Whitaker,” &c.

‡ “Cum plurimam insulæ partem [*Cincipientes ab austro*] Britones possedissent,” &c. Bede, Ecc. Hist. lib. 1. c. 1.

§ Gildas, Hist. c. 1.—Nennius, Hist. c. lxx.—Bede, Hist. c. 1.—Rudb. Hist. Major. c. 11.

Unelli, or Cherburg, from the vicinity of which they must often have seen the white cliffs of the Isle of Wight, landed, and established themselves at *Caer Peris*, or *Porchester*, the only ancient city which is actually on this coast. From thence, proceeding up the country in a north-west direction, they could not overlook that beautiful and commodious spot, which possessed the several advantages within itself, or close to it, of a well-watered valley, and of fertile fields, for their own support, and that of their valuable flocks; of extensive downs interspersed with covers proper for the chase;* and of shady forests† necessary for defence, and for the mysterious rights of the Druidical religion: here then they made their chief settlement on the southern coast.”‡

The Celtic Britons being afterwards dispossessed by the Belgæ, Winchester became, as already stated, the chief city of that nation in this Island, and retained its pre-eminence till the Belgæ were finally subdued by *Vespasian*, and their capital submitted to the Roman arms. Afterwards, about the year 50, all the Belgic cities of note, between the *Anton*, or *Southampton* river, and the *Severn*, were fortified in a regular manner, by *P. Ostorius Scapula*, and garrisoned to defend the country from the incursions of the yet unconquered Britons. “This then is the proper period to which the regular construction of our city, in a square form, which was that of the Roman camps in general, is to be ascribed, together with the city walls, composed of flints and strong mortar, the substance of which, after so many repairs and alterations, still remains.§ These fortifications were not raised, except for the purpose

* “*Vita omnis in venationibus.*” *Cæs. Bell. Gal. l. vi.*

† “The forests, indeed, round this city, have been destroyed as cultivation increased; but authority proves that there must have been much wood here, and experience proves that the soil in general is favorable to its growth.”

‡ *History &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 4, 5.*

§ “The opinion that the substance of a considerable part of our city walls is of the period here assigned to them, will receive great support from

pose of being defended by a garrison: hence there can be no doubt but that some Roman legion, or some cohorts, were then stationed in this city. These troops, according to their usual custom, had their *Castrum Æstivum*, or summer encampment, in the neighbourhood, as well as their winter quarters in the city itself. We accordingly find the vestiges of this encampment in the situation where we should naturally look for them, on that singular peninsulated hill, within a mile of the city, called Catherine Hill, which communicates with the Roman road, between Porchester and Winchester on one side, and with the river which washes its foot on the other. On the top of this hill we discern the dimensions and form of the said *Castrum* in the bold intrenchment which still surrounds it, and which approaches to the Roman quadrangular shape, as nearly as the figure of the hill would admit.* By the Romans the name of the city was changed from *Caer Gwent* to *Venta Belgarum*: many traces of the roads made to the surrounding stations, during the period of their occupation, are still visible, and particularly of those which conduct to *Vindonum*, or Silchester, and *Sorbiodunum*, or Old Sarum: two temples, the one consecrated to Concord, the other to Apollo, are also recorded to have been built here, by the Romans, in the vicinity of the Cathedral.† Roman sepulchres have also been discovered within these few years just without the walls of the city, both to the east and to the north; in nine of them that were opened in the year 1789, human bones were found; and five of the number contained urns of black pottery, exceedingly well shaped and tempered, one of them being fluted, and the rest plain. A coin
apparently

from comparing the same with the still existing walls of Silchester, which city we know was utterly destroyed soon after the Romans abandoned our Island." Near the west end of the cathedral are the shattered remains of an old flint wall, which, by its mode of construction and cement, seems also to indicate Roman workmanship.

* Milner's History, Vol. I. p. 23, 24.

† Rudd. Hist. Major Hist. Wint. c. ii.

apparently of Augustus Cæsar, a Roman fibula, and some other antiquities, were also discovered in one of the sepulchres.*

From a comparative examination made by Mr. Milner, between various Roman and British authors, there is good reason to suppose, that a considerable district, of which *Venta*, or Winchester, was the capital, became the dominions of the brave Arviragus, or Caractacus, after his release by Claudian. That Emperor is recorded to have sent him back into Britain, with orders, that he should be reinstated in the government of a part of his inheritance. This was strictly in accordance with the approved policy of the Romans, in making Kings the instruments of their ambition; and Caractacus, who had also the appellation of Cogidubnus,† is thenceforth said to have become the firm ally of the Emperor, whose names he also assumed, as appears by the inscription on a stone dug up at Chichester in the beginning of the last century, in which he is literally styled, *Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus, King and Legate of the August Emperor in Britain.*‡ In his family the civil jurisdiction of the district is traditionally said to have remained till the death of Lucius, with whom the dynasty of British tributary Princes is recorded to have expired.

The real history of Lucius, who has been celebrated as the first Sovereign that embraced Christianity, is enveloped in a mass of legendary fable; and so improbable are the transactions ascribed to him, that not only the relation of his conversion to the Christian faith has been denied, but also the fact of his very existence rendered questionable. On this head, however, it has been observed, that hardly any point in our national history is more positively, unanimously, or circumstantially asserted, not less by the Britons themselves, than by the Saxon, and other antagonists of the British writers.§ Notwithstanding this evidence, it must be

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acknowledged,

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 27. Vol. II. p. 209.

† Conqueror of the *Dobuni*. ‡ Philosophical Transactions, No. 379.

§ "To quote the authorities on this occasion," continues Mr. Milner, "would be almost equivalent to making a list of all our ancient authors, and other ecclesiastical writers, who treat of the period in question."

acknowledged, that truth and fiction are so intimately blended in the records which relate to Lucius, that every attempt to separate them is, perhaps, impossible.

The extended sway attributed to this King at a period when the greatest part of Britain was completely subjected to the Romans, is, probably, of all the events of his history, that which renders it the most disputable. After his own baptism, and that of his Queen, and greater part of his subjects, by Faganus, or Fugatius, and Duvianus, who had been sent from Rome, for the purpose, by Pope Eleutherius, he is stated to have founded churches in each of the twenty-eight cities, which subsisted in Britain prior to the Roman Conquest, and which had subsequently "been the chief seats of the Flamines, or Pagan priests; settling upon the Christian priests, the revenues that the former had before enjoyed."

"With respect to the hierarchy to be established," continues Mr. Milner, who supports the history of Lucius to its full extent, "it seemed best to Lucius and his prelates, that the same should be observed, which before had obtained amongst the Flamines, according to which, London, York, and Caerleon, became Metropolitan Sees: hence our city of Venta, though the particular object of the regard of Lucius, and probably the capital of his dominions, was, indeed, left destitute of that pre-eminence, to which, as the chief city of the west, it was otherwise entitled; but, in return, it was honored with certain distinctions peculiar to itself. Instead of causing one of the Heathen temples in it to be purified, and consecrated, for the purpose of a Christian church, as he did in the other cities,* he built our *Cathedral* from the ground, upon a scale of grandeur and magnificence which has never since been equalled; and he bestowed upon it the right of sanctuary, with other privileges.† Moreover, as in this city had been the chief school

* "Templis Deorum a Paganosa purificatis superstitione uni Deo ejusque sanctis ecclesias dedicantes."

Rudb. Hist. Maj. Chap. 11. ex Giraldo.

† This Cathedral is affirmed by Rudborne, on the authenticity of Moratius, to have been 209 paces, or upwards of 600 feet, in length, and ninety-two paces in height.

school in the Island of the Pagan Flamines, so Lucius annexed to the Cathedral here a *Monastery*, as our historian calls it,* or rather a community of clergy, living together in common. When the Cathedral was completed, it was consecrated in the name of the Holy Saviour; and a religious Bishop, by name Denotus, was vested with the spiritual authority and jurisdiction belonging to it.†

The improbabilities of this account, circumstantial as it is, are sufficiently obvious to render it extremely disputable, even to those who are but slightly acquainted with the state of Britain at the period here spoken of; and several judicious authors regard it as altogether fabulous. The ambiguity which attends the time of the death of Lucius, as well as the place of his burial, has also been advanced as an argument against the credibility of the events recorded in his history; and it is certain that the obscurity in which these circumstances are involved, is calculated to excite considerable suspicion. A King who had become so famous as Lucius must have been, were the accounts true that Christianity was generally established throughout the Island by his means, could hardly have descended to the grave so obscurely, as to leave the period of his decease unascertained, or the place of his interment undecided. Winchester, as well as other British cities, has been assigned as the scene of the latter; but the German writers report, "that a little before his death, either resigning his Crown, on being dispossessed of it by the Romans, he went abroad, and preached the gospel in Bavaria, and in the country of the Grisons."‡

With the termination of the government of Lucius, the authority of the British Princes in this part of the Island is said to have ended, and Venta to have been thenceforth governed immediately by Roman officers. This city is also supposed to have been the principal residence of the Emperors Carausius and Allectus, who assumed the Imperial Purple in Britain, and whose coins have been dug up in greater numbers here, and in the adjoining fields, than those of any two lawful Emperors whomsoever.§

B 2

During

* Rudb. Hist. Maj. ex Moracio.

† Hist. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 41, 42.

‡ Ibid p. 43.

§ Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 45.

During the latter part of the general persecution carried on against the Christians, by Dioclesian, about the end of the third, or beginning of the fourth century*, the Cathedral and Monastery attributed to Lucius, are said to have been levelled with the ground, and all the ecclesiastics either slaughtered or dispersed. The cessation of the persecution is ascribed to Constantius Chlorus, in the time of whose successor, the great Constantine, the avowed patron of the Christians, the Cathedral of Venta is stated to have been rebuilt on the site of the former one, and in a similar form, that of the cross. This second building is said to have been dedicated in honor of St. Amphibalus, a priest, and martyr, who having sought refuge in the house of St. Alban at *Werluncester*,† was discovered, and put to death; as was also his kind host, for having given him entertainment. With the new Cathedral the Monastery is presumed to have been re-established; and it aspires to the honor of having had an Emperor for one of its monks. This was Constans, son of Constantine, who, after the successful usurpation of his father, about the year 407, had been “tempted, or compelled, sacrilegiously to desert the peaceful obscurity of the monastic life,”‡ and having been invested with the Imperial Purple, had been left to command in Spain; but, on the revolt of Gerontius, his bravest general, was made prisoner, and put to death.

The increasing calamities of the Roman Empire having occasioned the withdrawing of all the Roman troops from Britain, its several provinces reverted to the governments of its native Chieftains, who appear to have maintained an independent authority, till a sense of mutual danger arising from the successful enterprises of the Scots and Picts, caused them to elect Gortheryn, or Vortigern, as their King.

This

* There is a great difference in the chronology of different writers concerning the time of this persecution. Rudborne places it in his great History in 266, and less erroneously in his little History in 296. The Saxon Chronicle assigns the year 283; Matthew of Westminster 303, with whom Eusebius and Lactantius nearly agree. *Milner*.

† Now St. Albans, in Hertfordshire.

‡ Gibbon's Roman Empire, Vol. V. p. 342.

This Prince had previously ruled in the western district, and under his government Winchester became the metropolis of the Island, and was afterwards the residence of his successors, Ambrosius, and Uther Pendragon: the former is believed to have died by poison in this city.*

After the irruption of the Saxons under Cerdic, and the defeat of the united army of the Britons in the New Forest, Venta again changed masters, and became the capital of the West-Saxon kingdom. In this revolution, the Cathedral is stated to have been converted into a Heathen Temple, and made subservient to the gloomy and impure rites of Thor, Woden, Frea, and Tuisco. The name of the city itself was also changed; and from *Caer Gwent*, or *Venta Belgarum*, it became *Wintanceaster*, or Winchester. The victorious Cerdic was crowned King of the West-Saxons, in conjunction with Kynric, his son, in 519; and, after several years active warfare, in extending and preserving his conquests, he died, and was buried here in the year 534.†

B 3

From

* See Milner, Vol. I. p. 62. The authorities quoted in confirmation, are Galfrid, Mat. West. and Ranulph.

† The legendary tales attached to the History of King Lucius, are not the only fabulous relations connected with the annals of this city. The story of the British King Arthur, has, by “many a chronicler of ancient days,” been particularly connected with it, and many of his exploits have been referred to this vicinity. On this head, the disquisition on the history of Arthur, by Mr. Milner, is satisfactory, and complete, and we shall take the liberty of inserting it for future reference.

“What then, it will be asked by many an admirer of the antiquities of Winchester, what then becomes of the boasted feats of the renowned Arthur, which are said to have taken place at this time in the said city, and which have hitherto been considered as its chief glory? of the castle which he built? of the round-table which he erected? of the four-and-twenty knights installed, with their splendid tilts, and tournaments held there? of his institution of parliaments, and of oaths of allegiance? and lastly, of the dreadful battle fought between Arthur and his nephew Mordred, on the adjoining downs, called Magdalen Hill, and of the final triumph of this first Christian worthy?

“To

From this period Winchester continued to be the metropolis of the West Saxons; but no event of importance is recorded concerning

“To these questions, the historian, who is mindful of his first duty, namely, that which he owes to truth, will be forced to answer, that the erection of the Castle of Winchester, the invention of the round table, with the other ceremonies of chivalry, as also the institution of Parliaments, are of a later date, by many centuries, than the age of Arthur; and that the exploits of this valiant hero, and true patriot, which, according to an ancient and judicious Saxon writer, were worthy to be recorded in the faithful page of history,* have been degraded by absurd and romantic fables, originating in national and local prejudices on one side, and in ignorance and carelessness, in confounding dates and places, on the other.

“Uther Pendragon is stated to have died at St. Albans, not without suspicion of poison by the Saxons, about the time that Cerdic became master of Winchester, namely, in the year 516. On this occasion the celebrated St. Dubritius, Bishop of Caerleon, and predecessor, in the metropolitanical dignity, to the great St. David, being anxious to procure a prop to his falling country, called a meeting of the British grandees and prelates, in a place the most safe from the incursions of the Saxons, namely, at *Caer Seiont*, near the modern town of Caernarvon,† where
Arthur,

* “Hic est Arthurus de quo nugæ Britonum delirant: dignus plane quem non fallaces fabulæ, sed veraces historiæ prædicarent.”

Gul. Malm. de Gestis Reg. Angl. l. i

† Here occurs one of those errors which was occasioned by ignorance, or inattention, in distinguishing between places of the same name. Geoffrey, of Monmouth, and Benedict, of Gloucester, say, that a general meeting of the Britons was held at Silchester, in which Arthur was elected King. Now it is very improbable that such a congress could have taken place so near to the capital city of Cerdic, (had Silchester been then in being, which it was not,) at a time when, according to Mat. West. himself, the latter carried his victorious arms wherever he pleased. But Geoffrey's history was collected from records written in the British language; and in this tongue there were two cities of the name of *Caer Seiont*; one near the modern town of Caernarvon; the other on the borders of Hampshire. Now that meeting of the Britons which could not have taken place in the latter county, was very likely to have taken place in the former, *Milner*,

cerning it, till the year 635, when the arrival of the apostle Birinus, whom Pope Honorius had deputed to preach the gospel in

B 4

those

Arthur, who had already given very pregnant proofs of his military talents, was chosen King, notwithstanding the illegitimacy of his birth, in preference to the children of his legitimate sister Anne, by Lothus, a Scottish chieftain, who were Mordred and Galwan. His conduct justified the expectations that were formed of him. He for several years upheld his country from sinking, and routed different bodies of the Saxons, both to the north and south of Wales, which was his peculiar demesne, as being now almost the only part of Britain which they had not overrun. Twelve of his victories are peculiarly celebrated; the last of which was his forcing the Saxons, for the second time, to raise the siege of Bath. In achieving these conquests, he was assisted not only by his own forces, but also by auxiliary troops which he procured from his allies, both within and without the Island, particularly from Hoel, the King of Brittany. We have proofs that, after many severe battles, Arthur made peace with Cerdic, the most powerful of the Saxon Kings; and it is probable that he entered into treaties with the other Princes of the same nation, upon honorable terms. This then was the period for those magnificent solemnities, and feats of arms, which we read of his celebrating; and which solemnities, in after times, agreeably to the customs then prevailing, were described to be tilts and tournaments. The actual scene of these, and the place where Arthur usually kept his court, was either *Caer Gwent* itself, namely, the *Caer Gwent* of Monmouthshire, *Venta Silurum*, or the adjoining city of *Caerleon* in *Wentfend*; that is to say, the territory of *Venta*, as the whole country thereabouts was called.* The former of these cities being quite destroyed, and the latter reduced to a mere village, the splendid scenes with which Arthur had ennobled them, were, through ignorance or flattery, transferred to our *Caer Gwent*, at a time

* Whenever the name *Caer Gwent* occurred in the British songs or records, it was of course written in Latin, *Venta*, or *Wintonia*, by Geoffrey, Mat. of Westminster, and others; which appellations, at the time we are speaking of, were exclusively applied to our city. An opinion having thus prevailed, that King Arthur had kept his court here, the ancient Castle was assigned for his place of residence, which, in the next place, it was asserted that he had built; and of course he was asserted to have set up the round table which was found there. See *John Stow, Annals, &c.*

those parts of Britain that were still involved in Paganism, materially changed the state of affairs. Birinus is stated to have obtained a favorable reception at the Court of Kinegils, who, with his son Quilchelm, then swayed the sceptre of the West Saxon Kingdom; and in a short period, his mission was rewarded by the conversion of both those Monarchs, as well as of a considerable number of their subjects.

The sudden influence which Birinus obtained over the minds of the Saxons, is, agreeably to the monkish legends of that age, attributed to the fame of a miracle, which attended his embarkation for this Island. "Having performed the sacred mysteries, he left behind

time when it was one of the most important cities in the Island. The same season of peace allowed Arthur the necessary leisure for making a pilgrimage of devotion to the Holy Land. This journey afforded sufficient materials for the bards, whom Geoffry copies, to work up into the most extensive conquests; they accordingly represent their hero as subduing all the countries through which he passed. During his absence, he committed the regency of his Kingdom to his nephew Mordred, who considering the Crown as his due, in right of his mother, took measures to secure it to himself, as well as the affections of his aunt, Queen Guenhumara, the most important of which was to strengthen himself, by making a fresh treaty with our King Cerdic. These particulars coming to the knowledge of Arthur, he hastens home, and endeavours, in the first place, 'to gain possession of his capital, and of his Queen, who, dreading the effects of his displeasure, takes refuge, and puts on the religious veil, in the famous Abbey of St. Julius, at Caerleon.*' He therefore hastens to the aforesaid Caer Gwent, which is ignorantly supposed to be our city; a battle ensues before it, which is therefore stated to have happened on Magdalen Hill: in a word, Arthur is victorious; but is soon after grievously wounded in a second battle, in which Mordred himself loses his life. Finding his end approaching,

* Mat. West. ad. an. 541. That there was a Nunnery dedicated to St. Julius, the British Martyr, in the said city, is attested by Benedict, Ang. Sac. Vol. II. p. 659; also by Giraldus, quoted by Camden, Monmouthshire. Now it was an easy matter for the Queen to fly from the *Gwent*, or Vintonia of Monmouthshire, to Caerleon, but a very difficult one to get thither from our city, especially in the situation of affairs in which this is said to have happened.

behind him what is called a *corporale*,* containing the blessed sacrament, which he did not recollect until the vessel in which he sailed, was some way out at sea. It was in vain for him to argue the case with the Pagan sailors who steered the ship, and it was impossible for him to leave his treasure behind. In this extremity, supported by a strong faith, he stepped out of the ship upon the waters, which became firm under his feet; in short, he walked in this manner to land, and having secured what he was anxious about, returned, in the same manner, on board the vessel, which in the mean time had remained stationary in the place where he left it. The ship's crew were of the nation to which he was sent, who, being struck with the miracle which they had witnessed, lent a docile ear to his instructions: thus our apostle began the conversion of the West Saxons before he landed upon their territory."†

From

proaching, Arthur gives up his kingdom to his relation, Constantine, and retires, with the utmost secrecy, to prepare himself for death, among the solitaries of Glassenbury, where he dies in so much obscurity, that his credulous countrymen will hardly admit the fact itself, of his being dead, until his tomb is discovered in the reign of Henry the Second.‡ In thus endeavouring to disengage the antiquities of our city from the fables with which they have been hitherto disfigured, we have at the same time disentangled one of the most perplexed periods of our national history, and reconciled, in a certain degree, the British with the Saxon historians. The existence and the feats of Arthur, to the extent, and in the places, which have been here assigned to them, are reconciled with probability; but it is proved that these have no immediate relation with our city."

History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 73, 80.

* A communion cloth, or square piece of linen, on which the chalice and host are placed by the priest who officiates at mass. *Bailey.*

† This legend is recorded by several ancient writers: Mr. Milner regards it as a prodigy so well attested, "that the most judicious historians have not dared openly to deny it."

‡ Girald. Cambren. Higden. Camden. The writers of the "History of Winchester," more romantic than Geoffry himself, but less excusable, because they propagate the most revolting falsehoods without the *shadow* of authority, make Cerdic first gain possession of this city; they then cause him to be driven out of it by Pendragon; and lastly, they tell us he killed Arthur in battle, and thus became master of it a second time. *Milner.*

From Winchester, Birinus, by the consent of Kinegils, removed to Dorchester, near Oxford, then a considerable city, and apparently the place where Quilchelm kept his court. Here, for the present, he established the Episcopal See, while Kinegils himself began to collect materials for building a new Cathedral in his own city, but died before he had completed it, in 643. This Cathedral is stated to have been commenced on the site of the former one, and was intended to have been the principal foundation of the kind in the west;* but the death of Kinegils interrupted the design; for his son and successor, Kenewalch, being a Pagan, a stop was put to the building, and it was not renewed till after the lapse of several years, and the conversion of Kenewalch to Christianity. This change was effected at the Court of Anna, the Christian King of the East Angles, to which Kenewalch had fled for an asylum; when dispossessed of his throne by Penda, King of Mercia. Being afterwards restored through the interposition of his friends, he completed the building of the Cathedral, and endowed a Monastery near it. The Church was then dedicated by St. Birinus, in the name of the Holy Trinity, St. Peter, and St. Paul, anno 648. About twelve years afterwards, and ten after the decease of Birinus, Kenewalch divided the Diocese into two portions, assigning to that of Dorchester, the jurisdiction of his possessions in the north part of his kingdom, and establishing Winchester as the See of the south. Before the death of Kenewalch, which occurred in 674, the city, and surrounding country, was almost depopulated by a plague. St. Hedda, the fifth Bishop of the West Saxons, removed the remains of St. Birinus, which had been buried at Dorchester, to Winchester, and interred them in the Cathedral. The learned Bishops, Daniel, and St. Aldhelm, succeeded St. Hedda; but no event of distinguished importance is recorded of the city till the reign of Egbert. This

* "In votis ejus (Kinegils) erat in Wintonia ædificare templum præcipuum, collectis jam plurimis ad opus ædificii." *Ann. Wint.* "Eodem tempore (an. 644.) Kenewalchus sedem episcopalem in Wintonia fundavit." *Mat. West.* This agrees with the Saxon Chronicle, which ascribes the foundation of the Church and See of Winchester to Kenewalch.

This Sovereign, who had been banished in the early part of his life by King Briteric, had so successfully studied the example of the great Charlemagne, at the Imperial Court of Aix la Chapelle, as to become his rival on this side of the water, when called to the Crown, on the death of Briteric, in 800. After many severe battles, he obtained the ascendancy over all the other Saxon states, and uniting the whole into one Monarchy, was solemnly crowned King of all England, in Winchester Cathedral, in the year 827. On this occasion, he published an edict, dated from this city, abolishing all distinctions of Saxons, Jutes, and English; and commanding that all his subjects should in future be called by the latter name only.

The union of the Saxon kingdoms under Egbert, advanced Winchester to the dignity of Metropolis of the whole Island: and here the weak Ethelwolph, Egbert's successor, dated his charter for the general establishment of tythes, about the year 854 or 855. "The said instrument testifies, that it was subscribed by Ethelwolph himself, and by his two vassals, Bhurred, King of Mercia, and Edmund, King of the East Angles, as also by a great number of Nobles, Prelates, &c. in the Cathedral Church at Winchester, before the high altar; and that being thus signed, by way of greater solemnity, it was placed by the King upon the said altar."* About this period, the commerce of the city is recorded to have greatly increased, and the principal inhabitants appear, from Trussel's Manuscripts,† to have formed a *Guild* under the royal protection. This association is said to be the first of the kind, recorded in history, by the space of a whole century. The celebrated St. Swithin, or Swithun, a native of Winchester, or its suburbs, held the See during the greater part of this and the following reigns; and by his advice, Ethelbald, Ethelwolph's successor, raised

* Milner. "In civitate Wentana in ecclesia S. Petri ante altare capitale. Et tunc pro ampliore firmitate Rex Ethelwulphus posuit cartulam super altare." *Will. Malm. &c.*

† Written in the reign of James the First, and preserved among the archives of Winchester.

raised fortifications in the vicinity of the Cathedral and Cloisters, to preserve them from the destructive fury of the Danes, who now began to make incursions into different parts of the kingdom, with large armies. The good effects of this measure were soon experienced; for, in the next reign, that of Ethelbert, the Danes landed a considerable force at Southampton, and advancing to Winchester, made themselves masters of the city, wherein they committed the most horrid and lamentable excesses; but the Cathedral, with its adjoining offices, appears to have escaped their rage; a circumstance only to be accounted for, by supposing it effectually screened from their depredations. The Danes were, at length, routed with great slaughter, on their retreat to their ships; and the immense spoils which they had taken in the city, were recovered. The era of complete disaster was, however, not far distant; and, after various desperate battles fought by the brothers Ethelbert and Alfred, afterwards surnamed the Great, Winchester was abandoned to Danish vengeance; and among the other devastations, all the ecclesiastics belonging to the Cathedral were massacred, and the building itself greatly damaged. This event appears to have happened either in the year 871, or 873. The subsequent success of Alfred restored Winchester to some portion of its former splendor, and it again became the seat of government; and the *Codex Wintoniensis*, or General Survey of the Kingdom, which had been made by Alfred's order, was deposited, with other public records, in this city. Alfred himself began a monastery here for his friend and chaplain, St. Grimbald, on the north side of the ~~WALDEN~~ ~~APPROACH~~, or Cathedral; intending it also, as a burial-place for his own family; but dying before its completion, he was provisionally interred in the Cathedral, from which his remains were afterwards removed to the ~~WELFARE~~ ~~APPROACH~~, as the new foundation was then termed.

In the reign of Athelstan, Alfred's grandson, a remarkable combat is said, by local tradition, and various historians, to have taken place near this city, between "the Danish giant, Colbrand, and Guy, Earl of Warwick." Many exaggerated circumstances are connected with this battle; but "the ground-work of the history,"

it is observed by Mr. Milner, "is founded on so many ancient records, and supported by innumerable traditions, as likewise by a great number of monuments still existing, or that existed until of late,* that to reject it favors of absolute scepticism. It seems necessary, however, to add, that our native historian, being supported by constant tradition, and certain monuments, deserves much more credit, in placing the scene of this action in Hyde Meadow, called, from this circumstance, *Dane-mark*, and in arming his Danish champion with a huge battle axe, than does the Canon of Leicester,† who transfers the combat to the valley (*Chilcomb*) on the other Side of St. Giles's Hill; and who makes Colbrand fight chiefly with a mallet, or huge club, armed with iron." The prosperity of the city in the reign of Athelstan, may be estimated from the circumstance of that Sovereign establishing six mints here, for so many different kinds of money. "These mints were placed in the centre of the city, where the pent-house at present stands, but which then seems to have formed the site of the royal palace."

The succession of Edgar, surnamed the *Peaceable*, one of the best and greatest of the Saxon Kings, increased the importance of Winchester. Among the judicious laws which he established, was that

* "Such as,—First, *Athelstan's Chair*, being a turret, so called, in the north wall of the city, from which he is said to have been a spectator of the combat. Secondly, a *Representation* of the said battle, in stone, which Wharton tells us formerly existed in the said wall. Thirdly, two mutilated *Statues*; one of a very tall man, the other of a little man, in the attitude of fighting, said by Butler, in the *Lives of the Saints*, to have existed in the Chapel, at *Guy's Cliff*. Fourthly, *COLBRAND'S AXE*, as it is called by Rudborne, which was preserved, in his time, in the treasury of the Cathedral. Hist. Maj. There also it was in the reign of James the First, as Trussel testifies; and probably continued until the universal pillage in the grand Rebellion."

History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 145.

† Knyghton. A particular account of the combat, abridged from this historian, is inserted in the History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 146. Note.

that celebrated one to prevent frauds arising from the diversity of measures, providing a standard legal measure for the whole of his dominions.* This was the origin of the celebrated *Winchester Measure*; the standard vessels made by Edgar's orders, being deposited in this city.† In the reign of this Sovereign, anno 963, St. Ethelwold, a native of Winchester, was appointed to the Episcopal See, and during his prelacy, he caused the Cathedral to be partly rebuilt; and on its completion, in 980, he re-consecrated it with great solemnity, in the presence of King Ethelred, Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, and eight other Bishops; besides a numerous assemblage of nobles, and other laity. On this occasion, to its former patrons, St. Peter, and St. Paul, was added the name of St. Swithin, whose relics were removed from the Church-yard, where they had been previously buried, according to St. Swithin's own desire, and re-interred under a magnificent shrine, that had been provided for the purpose by King Edgar. In the prelacy of this Bishop, and under the direction of Dunstan, the married secular canons, who then officiated in the Cathedral, were expelled, and their places supplied by Benedictine monks, brought from the Abbey at Abingdon. Similar measures were pursued in other parts of the kingdom; but, on the accession of Edward, surnamed the Martyr, Elfrida, his step-mother, attempted to change the direction of the current, and, by her influence in the province of Mercia, occasioned three abbeys, which St. Ethelwold had founded, to be suppressed, and their possessions given to married clergymen. This brought on the famous Synod, which was held in the Refectory of the Cathedral Monastery in this city, in which it was debated, whether the monasteries in general should be dissolved; the question is said to have been decided by a super-natural voice declaring in favor of the monks!

Ethelred, who was surnamed the *Unready*, from his tardiness in taking measures to repress the incursions of the Danes, appears to have

* The original bushel of Edgar is still preserved in the Guildhall of Winchester.

† "Mensura sit sicut apud Wincestriam habetur."

Leges Edgari, ap. Bromp. n. xiii.

have determined on the general massacre of the Danes in this city, shortly after his nuptials with Emma, the *Pearl of Normandy*, in 1002. "Here the massacre begun; and here, as soon as it was completed, those unmanly and indecent revels, called the *Hocktide Sports*, were instituted in memory of the part which the English women had borne in it, by Ethelred,* and continued, with a short interruption, until of late years. The dreadful vengeance taken by the Danish King, Swayne, (or Svein,) who landed soon afterwards, sickens us by its very recital.† With respect to our city, which appears not to have been summoned by Swayne before the year 1013, it instantly opened its gates to the conqueror, submitting to whatever terms he chose to impose upon it."‡ In the devastations that ensued, the good St. Elphage, who was then Bishop, and is recorded to have

* "The secret letters of Ethelred, directed to all parts of his kingdom from this city, ordered, as Henry Huntingdon says, (reporting what he had heard from old people living at the time,) that all the Danes indiscriminately should be put to death; and this was executed, as we learn from the Chronicle of Wallingford, with circumstances of the greatest cruelty, even upon women and children, in many parts: but in other places, it seems that the English, instead of killing their guests, satisfied themselves with what was called *hockshining*, or *houghing* them, by cutting their ham-strings, so as to render them incapable of serving in war. Hence the sports which were afterwards instituted in our city, and from thence propagated throughout the whole kingdom, obtained the name of the *Hocktide merriments*." The massacre itself took place on St. Brice's Day, November 13; but the sports, by an ordinance of Ethelred, were transferred to the Monday in the third week after Easter.

† "Pars civitatis Cantuariæ incenditur, deinde tota capitur. Homines jugulantur, alii flammis devorantur, alii de muris præcipites dantur, plures per verenda suspensi deficiunt. Parvulia maternis uberribus avulsi, aut lanceis, in altum projecti, excipiuntur, aut minutim in frusta conciduntur. Matronæ per plateas cruribus distractæ, demum ignibus injectæ moriuntur."

Mat. West. an. 1011. Osbern. in Vit. S. Elph

‡ "Wintonienses perterriti pacem cum eo fecerunt, et obsides, quos vel quot expetiit dederunt." *Sim. Dunelm. an. 1013.*

have introduced the use of Organs into his Cathedral,* was seen to rush between the murderers and their helpless victims, crying out to the former, "If ye are men, spare at least the innocent, and the unresisting; or if you want a victim, turn your swords upon me: it is I who have so often reproached you with your crimes, that have supported and redeemed the prisoners you have made, and have deprived you of many of your soldiers, by converting them to Christianity." Whether the solicitations of the Prelate were effectual, does not appear; but he was himself seized, and imprisoned; and, after seven months confinement, cruelly murdered at Greenwich, on declaring himself incompetent to raise the money (3000 marks of gold) which they had demanded for his ransom.

On the division of the kingdom between Edmund Ironside and Canute, West-Sex was retained by the former; but after his death, in the following year, Canute attained the entire Sovereignty. Soon afterwards, he divided his dominions into four parts, the jurisdiction of three of which he vested in subordinate rulers, but retained the fourth, and most honorable portion, in his own hands. Making Winchester his capital, he greatly increased the riches of the Cathedral; but the most extraordinary of all his presents, "was that of his royal Crown, which he placed over the crucifix of the high altar, having vowed never more to wear the same, at the time that he proved to his flatterers the emptiness of their praises, in hailing him Lord of the Ocean; by commanding, in vain, the flowing tide not to approach his feet."† In this city also, Canute held a general meeting of his nobility, at which many equitable and wise laws were passed, for ensuring public tranquillity and happiness. Other ordinances, of a more unpopular and severe nature, were likewise enacted, for preserving the royal forests, and beasts of chase.

On the death of Hardicanute, (son of Canute, and Emma, Ethelred's widow,) Edward, his half brother, surnamed the *Confessor*, from his presumed sanctity, was called to the throne by the general voice;

* M. S. ap. Godwin; quoted in Milner's History.

† Milner's History, Vol. I. p. 177. This celebrated occurrence is supposed to have taken place on the beach at Southampton.

voice; and his coronation was conducted with great rejoicings in this city. On this occasion, Edward granted a charter to the Cathedral, ordering the donation of half a mark to the Master of the choir; and a cask of wine, and 100 cakes of white bread, to the Convent, as often as a King of England should wear his Crown in the city of Winchester.

During the reign of this Monarch, a remarkable trial of the fiery ordeal is registered to have been made on the person of Queen Emma, who had been accused, among other calumnies, of a criminal intercourse with Bishop Alwyn, her kinsman. This Prelate had accompanied her to England, on her marriage with Ethelred, in quality of counsellor, or guardian; and being then a layman, was constituted Earl of Southampton, and invested with a command against the Danes. The peace between Edmund Ironside and Canute, left him at liberty to pursue his inclination for devotion and retirement, and he became a monk at Winchester, to the See of which he was afterwards raised, by desire of the Queen. The stories propagated of her intercourse with Alwyn, coming, at length, to her knowledge, she is said to have insisted on undergoing the proof of the fiery ordeal; and the Cathedral of Winchester was appointed as the place of trial. Here, in presence of the King, and a crowded assembly of all ranks of people, she is stated to have walked unhurt, over nine red-hot plough-shares; and, in memory of her extraordinary deliverance, increased the possessions of the Church, by the gift of nine manors. A similar number is also recorded to have been given by the Bishop, and three others (those of Portland, Weymouth, and Wyke) by Edward himself, whose indignation against his mother, for marrying Canute, is said to have been removed by this event.*

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Another

* The particulars of this singular story, as detailed in the pages of Rudborne, and the Winchester Annalist, are thus given by Milner. "Emma having succeeded in her request to clear herself, and Bishop Alwyn, by the fiery ordeal, came from the Abbey of Wherwell to the Cathedral Church, and there spent the night, preceding her trial, in fervent prayer. The morning being come, the King, the Bishops, and

Another remarkable circumstance, verging on the miraculous, is recorded to have happened in this city, in the year 1053: this was the sudden death of Earl Godwin, the most powerful nobleman in the realm, who was supposed to have been instrumental in shortening the life of Alfred, the King's brother. An accidental occurrence, in the midst of a great entertainment, during the festival of Easter, which Edward was here celebrating, is stated to have led the Earl to wish, that the next morsel which he put into his mouth might choke him, if he was guilty of the alleged murder. The wish is said to have been accomplished; and Godwin, after a few minutes agony, being unable to force the viands either upwards or downwards, to have fallen dead under the table. Rapin considers this tale as an invention of the Norman monks, to blacken the Earl's character; and observes, from other historians, that the death of the Earl did not occur till the fifth day of his illness. The Broad Seal, now considered as the insignia of the Chancellor,

an immense multitude of persons, of all descriptions, assembled in the Cathedral, to be spectators of the event. The pavement of the nave being swept, nine plough-shares, red with heat, were placed in a line upon it, while Emma, having invoked the Almighty to deal with her accordingly as she is innocent or guilty of the crimes laid to her charge, prepares herself for the trial, by laying aside her robes, and baring her feet. She is then conducted by two Bishops, one having hold of each of her hands, to the glowing metal. In the mean time, the vaults of the Church thunder with the voices of the assembled multitude, who, in loud shouts, call upon the Almighty to save the royal sufferer, and their cries are echoed through the whole city, by the crowds who were unable to gain admittance into the Church. She herself raising up her eyes to Heaven, and walking slowly on, thus makes her prayer: 'O God, who didst save Susannah from the malice of the wicked elders, and the three children from the furnace of fire, save me, for the sake of thy holy servant Swithin, from the fire prepared for me.' In a word, she is seen to tread upon each of the burning irons, and is not even sensible that she had touched them; but addressing herself to the Bishops, who had now led her almost to the end of the Church, she exclaims, 'When shall I come to the plough-shares?' They turn round, and

Chancellor, appears, from Trussel's Manuscripts, to have been first made and kept in this city, in the reign of Edward.

Soon after the Norman Invasion, the Conqueror founded a Castle at Winchester, with the same intent as he had began many others in different parts of the kingdom; namely, to prevent a rising of the inhabitants; and here, on St. Giles's Hill, at a subsequent period, the great Earl Waltheof was beheaded, after a mock trial, for an act of imprudence which he had afterwards repented of, and disclosed. During this reign, Winchester still continued to be a principal Royal Residence; though London, which had now arisen to great importance, began gradually to assume the pre-eminence. The chief festival of the year, that of Easter, William made an invariable rule to observe in this city, with the utmost pomp; a circumstance in which his example was followed by his successor Rufus.

In the year 1079, the re-building of the Cathedral, and adjoining Monastery, was again commenced by Bishop Walkelin, a cousin

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to

and shew her that she has already passed them: the lamentations of the multitude then ceasing, the air resounds with acclamations of joy and thanksgiving, still louder than their former prayers had been. The King alone is found overwhelmed with grief, and bathed in tears, lying upon the ground in the choir; to whom Emma being conducted, he begs her forgiveness, in terms of the utmost humility and sorrow, for the injurious suspicions that he had entertained concerning her, and the rigour with which he had treated her. Not content with this, he requires of her, and the Bishops there present, to strike him with a wand, which he presents to them. She accordingly gave her son three blows; when, having embraced him, both she and Bishop Alwyn were put into full possession of their former rights and property, and ever after enjoyed the royal favour and respect in the degree they merited." The more ancient writers, as Ailred Rievallensis, Hen. Hunt. Will. Malm. Rog. Hov. and Sim. Dunelm. do not mention this event; but the Poly-Chronicon of Ranulph Higden, who wrote in the middle of the fourteenth century, relates it at length; and about the same time, anno 1338, on the translation of Orleton to this See, it was sung in the Priors' Hall here, with other popular songs, relating to the history of Winchester.

to the Conqueror, of whom he obtained a grant for carrying on the work, of as much timber as he could fell and carry away in three days, from the wood called Hanepinges, (now Hempage,) about three miles eastward from the city. Making a diligent use of this permission, he caused every individual tree to be cut down in the absence of the King, and carted to Winchester within the prescribed time. William was at first greatly incensed against the Bishop; but, on the latter falling at his feet, and requesting to be restored to favor, dismissed him with the observation, that ‘he had made too exacting a use, of too liberal a grant.’ Walkelin completed his building about the year 1093; and the new Cathedral was then dedicated, in the presence of almost all the Bishops and Abbots of England. On the decease of Walkelin, in 1098, Rufus seized on the bishopric, and retained it till his accidental death in the New Forest, in the year 1100. The next day his body was brought to Winchester, on no better vehicle than the cart of a charcoal-maker,* and was afterwards interred in the centre of the Cathedral choir.

Henry, the younger brother of Rufus, having the advantage of his elder brother, Robert,† in being upon the spot, seized the Royal Treasury at Winchester, and partly by its influence, was elected to the vacant throne. The same year he espoused Matilda, the lineal* descendant of the West Saxon Kings, in this city, where she had previously worn the veil, but not taken the vows, in the Abbey of St. Mary. This Princess, who is highly celebrated in the annals of Winchester, under the title of *Molde*, the Good Queen, was delivered of a son here, within little more than a twelvemonth after her marriage; and on this joyful occasion, Henry granted a charter of additional privileges to the inhabitants. The same year, anno 1102, the Royal Palace, the Mint, the Guildhall, and

* “The lineal descendants of the said charcoal-maker, by name Purkis, still live within the distance of a bow-shot from the spot where Rufus fell, and still continue to follow the trade of their ancestor.”

Milner’s Winchester, Vol. I. p. 198.

† Robert was then absent, upon the first croisade in the Holy Land.

and a number of houses, were consumed by a fire, which also destroyed many of the public records.

In this reign, a singular transaction is stated in the Saxon Chronicle, and by William of Malmesbury, to have taken place at Winchester. The current coin throughout the kingdom, having been greatly debased by the different mint-masters, Henry, by the advice of the celebrated Roger, Bishop of Sarum, gave orders for them to repair to this city by Christmas-day, anno 1125; here, being separately examined, they were all convicted of the frauds imputed to them, excepting three persons of the profession, dwelling at Winchester, and punished by mutilation, and the loss of their right hands. All the base money was at the same time cried down, and an entire new coinage ordered to be made by the three artists who had preserved their honesty. Henry, also, about the same period, caused a standard yard to be made from the length of his own arm, in order to prevent the frauds committed in the measurement of cloth: this is thought to have been deposited with the other standards in this city.*

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After

* “ It was during this reign, as Trussel rightly observes, that Winchester attained to the zenith of its prosperity. It was the chief seat of government, where the King wore his crown, and assembled his nobility; and where the treasury, the Royal mint, and the public records were kept. Here also was a Royal Palace, of the greatest extent and magnificence; as likewise a noble Castle at the west end; and another was added about this time, no less considerable, at its eastern extremity, for the episcopal residence; not to speak of the Guildhall, or of other magnificent buildings, whether for public uses, or for the habitation of divers illustrious personages, who were accustomed to reside here. It was enriched with three Royal Monasteries, besides other religious houses of less note; and an almost incredible number of parish Churches and Chapels, amongst which sacred edifices, towered supreme, the vast Cathedral, venerable, even in those days, for its high antiquity, and for its possessing the remains of more personages of the ancient Royal line, than all the other Churches of the Island put together. A more important advantage than that was, its populousness and extent; its suburbs then reaching a mile, in every direction, further than they do at present:

After the death of Henry, and the usurpation of the Crown by his nephew, Stephen, Winchester suffered greatly in the distractions of the times. Stephen having seized the castles of the Bishops throughout the kingdom, and also committed other violences against the clergy, a Synod was held in this city, to protest against the injustice that had been used, and, if possible, to obtain redress. The Usurper was then at his palace here; but, instead of listening to the deputation sent by the prelates, he instantly departed for London, leaving the assembled Bishops, as well as the citizens in general, highly dissatisfied at his conduct. In this state of affairs, the Empress Maud landed on the coast of Sussex, to dispute the succession to the throne, and the Castle of Winchester was secured in her interest; but the city preserved its allegiance to the King, through the influence of the then Bishop, Henry de Blois, the Usurper's brother. In the course of the civil war that ensued, Stephen was made prisoner, and great part of the kingdom having declared in favor of his opponent, the Bishop thought it prudent to bend to the prevailing sentiment, and admitted the Empress, and her partizans, into this city, having previously met them on Magdalen Hill, in solemn procession, accompanied by all the religious, and most of the other inhabitants.

The haughtiness of Matilda having occasioned much disaffection, and the public opinion beginning to veer in favor of Stephen, the Bishop neglected to treat the Empress with his accustomed deference; and the latter becoming suspicious, summoned him to attend her at the Castle, where she had fixed her residence. On this occasion he returned the ambiguous answer, "*I will prepare myself;*"

present: on the north, to Worthy; on the west, to Week; on the south, to St. Cross; and on the east, to St. Magdalen's Hill. It was the general thoroughfare from the eastern to the western parts of the kingdom, and was resorted to from every part of it, on account of its celebrated fairs. Finally; it enjoyed a considerable woollen manufactory, particularly in the article of men's caps, which were worn until hats came into fashion; and an extensive commerce with the continent, from which it imported great quantities of wine, in return for its woollens, and other commodities." *Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 208.*

myself;" which he accordingly did, by strengthening his Castle of Wolvesey, and putting it in the best possible state to withstand a siege. Soon afterwards it was invested by the troops of the Empress, under the command of her natural brother, Robert, Earl of Gloucester, and her uncle, David, King of Scotland. This event was the signal of insurrection to Stephen's friends, who hastening to Winchester, relieved the Prelate, and attacked those who had besieged him. "The armies were great and warlike on both sides; and they carried on their military operations during the space of seven weeks in the heart of the city, a calamity almost unparalleled in the history of other cities. The party of the Empress had possession of whatever was to the north side of the High Street, where the houses of the citizens stood in general, together with the royal Castle. The King's party held the Bishop's palace, the Cathedral, and whatever else was to the south of the High Street: by degrees, also, they forced their enemies from all the other quarters of the city, and confined them to the Castle; but, in effecting this, they made use of a most barbarous stratagem: they threw fire-balls from Wolvesey, upon the houses that were possessed by the opposite party; a destructive measure, in which the brave Earl of Gloucester disdained to imitate them. Thus they destroyed, first the adjoining Abbey of St. Mary, then the whole north, which was infinitely the most populous part of the city, together with twenty churches,* the Royal Palace, and the suburb of Hyde, with the magnificent Monastery of St. Grimbald, erected there in the preceding reign. At length the Imperial party were confined to the Castle, in which they might long have bid defiance to their enemies, had they not been straitened for want of provisions, and still more for want of water; the stream from the river, which flowed round it, having been obstructed by the besiegers. The chief object of anxiety to the brave brother and uncle, was to save the person of the Empress; and here the fertility of her genius came in aid of their valor. She caused a report to be spread of her illness; and then, after a suitable inter-

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val,

* Stow quotes an authority, according to which, forty churches were then burnt.

val, of her death; taking care, at the same time, to keep out of the sight of every one, except a few trusty friends. In short, she was inclosed like a corpse in a sheet of lead, and was thus suffered to pass in a horse litter, as if carried out for interment, through the army of the besiegers; a truce having been granted for the purpose. When at a proper distance, she was freed from her dismal inclosure; and mounting a horse, she made the best of her way by Luggershall, and Devizes, to Gloucester. In the mean time, Earl Robert, with his followers, and the King of Scots, taking advantage of the truce, suddenly issued from the Castle; but being pursued by Stephen's army, the Earl was taken prisoner, at Stockbridge;”* and afterwards exchanged for the captive King, as he was of no less value to the Imperial, than Stephen was to the Regal party. One of the first concerns of the latter, after obtaining his release, was to strengthen the Castle with new works; but while busied in this undertaking, a large army collected against him from the surrounding country, and he was obliged to abandon his design, and save himself by flight. During the further prosecution of the war, the Bishop, who had been invested with legatine authority by the Pope, held a Synod here, in which it was resolved that, “Ploughs should have the same privileges of sanctuary with churches; and a sentence of excommunication was pronounced by the whole assembly, with the ceremony of lighted torches in their hands, against all those who should attack or injure any person engaged in the employments of agriculture.”† The terms of pacification entered into at Wallingford Castle, between Stephen and Henry, Maud's son, were ratified at Winchester, with the general consent of the Kingdom.

Many

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 215.

† Milner, from Mat. Paris, ad. an. 1142. “Statutum est (in Concil. Wint.) ut aratra in campis, cum ipsis agricolis, talem pacem haberent, qualem haberent in cimiterio, si existerent. Excommunicaverunt autem omnes qui contra hoc decretum venirent, candelis accensis; et sic milvorum rapacitas aliquantulum conquievit.”

Many privileges were bestowed on the inhabitants of this city, by Henry the Second; and, in particular, that of being governed by a Mayor, with a subordinate Bailiff, anno 1184. In his reign the again increasing importance of Winchester received a considerable check by an accidental fire, which commencing at the Mint, where a new coinage was fabricating, burnt down the greater part of the city. On the death of this King, Richard, his son, surnamed Cœur de Lion, possessed himself of the royal treasury, which Mathew of Westminster asserts to have contained valuables, in gold, silver, and precious stones, to the amount of 900,000*l.* a most immense sum, if the difference in the value of money is taken into consideration. Richard was crowned at London; but, after his return from captivity in the dungeons of Trivallis, he was again crowned in this city, with great solemnity and splendor.

In the year 1207, King John held an assembly, in this city, in which a tax was imposed upon the people, of a thirteenth of all moveable property; a measure that caused great and general disaffection. Here also, the same year, his Queen was delivered of a son, surnamed of Winchester, from his birth-place. In the ensuing year, the King granted to the citizens a charter of incorporation, on payment of 200 marks down, and 100 marks annually: he also confirmed their former immunities, and bestowed some additional privileges. In this city also, in the monks' Chapter-House, was the above pusillanimous Monarch absolved from the sentence of excommunication, which had been pronounced against him by the Pope, Innocent the Third, to whose Legate he had made the most abject and disgraceful submissions.

Henry of Winchester, who succeeded his father in the year 1215, held his court at Winchester during great part of his minority, under the guardianship, first, of William, Earl of Pembroke, and, after his decease, of Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of this See. This, in some measure, restored the consequence of the city, which had greatly suffered in the foregoing contentions: but the advantages arising from the King's residence here, were in a great degree counteracted by associations formed for purposes of rapine and plunder, in which not only many of the principal inhabitants

were

were concerned, but likewise several belonging to the King's own household, and body-guard. These illegal combinations were at length broken by the address and spirit of the Sovereign; and no fewer than thirty persons were condemned, and executed, on the occasion. During the disastrous contests between Henry and his Barons, Winchester suffered greatly; both parties alternately obtaining possession, and committing various acts of violence. After the decisive battle of Evesham, several parliaments were held here by the King; and here also, in the same reign, occurred the famous trial of John Plantagenet, Earl of Surrey, for cleaving the skull of Alan de la Zouch, Chief Justice of Ireland, as he sat upon the bench at Westminster Hall. This high-spirited Nobleman had been summoned to produce evidence of the tenure by which he held his lands, when, drawing his sword, he swore that his father and grand-father had held their estates by that right, and that he would maintain them by the same. This asseveration he fatally verified on the person of the Judge; but was acquitted of the murder on his trial, upon his solemn oath, "that he had not struck the deceased out of preconceived malice, or contempt of the King's authority; and upon twenty-four persons, of the rank of Knights, who were *compurgatores*, swearing they believed what the Earl had sworn to be true: he was, however, fined in the heavy sum of 1200 marks." During this reign, as well as the preceding ones from the time of Henry the First, many disputes arose about the privilege of electing to the See, between the Sovereign, the Pope, and the Monks belonging to the Cathedral.

The increased importance of London about this period, operated greatly to the disadvantage of Winchester; and though Edward the First held several parliaments here, in one of which the celebrated ordinances were passed, afterwards known by the name of the *Statutes of Winchester*, yet the Royal Residence was in a great measure removed; and with it, of course, departed the attendants on the court, and others engaged in public affairs, whose expenditure had hitherto contributed to the affluence of the city. Towards the conclusion of this reign, all the liberties of Winchester were declared void, by order of the King, whose displeasure had

been excited from the escape of Bernard Pereres, a foreign hostage, that had been confined in the Castle under charge of the Mayor, and other corporate officers. The good offices of Margaret, the reigning Queen, procured a restoration of the privileges of the city; and the memory of this benevolent Princess has been ever since held in great and deserved estimation by the inhabitants.

Shortly after the murder of Edward the Second, a parliament was caused to be held in this city, by the Queen and her paramour, Roger Mortimer, in which the illustrious Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, was attainted of high treason. Being condemned to die, on the day appointed for his execution, he was led to a scaffold erected before the Castle gate; but such was the general detestation against the bloody deed, that no person could be prevailed on to become his executioner till the evening, when the disgraceful office was undertaken by a wretch from one of the prisons, who, to save his own life, consented to decapitate the Earl.

In the reign of Edward the Third, Winchester was appointed as one of the fixed markets, or staples, for wool; and the merchants availing themselves of the solemn promise given by the King and his Council, not to revoke this order, erected large warehouses, and other buildings, for the more convenient management of the trade. The growing commerce of the city, was, however, interrupted by the destruction of Portsmouth and Southampton by the French, in the years 1337 and 1338; and again by the great Plague, which, about ten years afterwards, spent its first fury in this neighbourhood: but the most destructive event to the prosperity of Winchester, was the removal of the wool staple to Calais in the year 1363. "Henceforward," observes Mr. Milner, "her decline from wealth and commerce was sensible and uniform." In this reign the rebuilding of the nave of the Cathedral was commenced by Bishop Edyngton, who was Treasurer and Chancellor to the King. The honor of completing it, with other material alterations, was reserved however for his able successor, William de Wykeham.

Richard the Second, and his Queen, visited this city in the year 1388; and here, in 1392, a parliament was held, in consequence of London having suffered a temporary deprivation of its privileges through the Royal indignation. Henry the Fourth had the solemnities

solemnities of his marriage with Joanna, Dowager Duchess of Bretagne, celebrated in Winchester Cathedral, by the venerable Bishop Wykeham, in 1401. The celebrated Henry Beaufort, son of John of Gaunt, and afterwards Cardinal, was appointed to the See of Winchester on the death of Wykeham, by the above Monarch. Henry the Sixth was a considerable benefactor to this city, which he visited several times; and in 1449 he held a parliament here, which continued from the sixteenth of June, till the sixteenth of the month following. In this reign the trade and population had so greatly decreased, that the inhabitants, on a petition to the King for the renewal of a grant made by himself in 1440, represent that 997 houses were actually divested of inhabitants, and seventeen parish Churches shut up. On the death of Cardinal Beaufort, in 1447, the celebrated Waynflete was elected to succeed him by the Monks, on the recommendation of the King, who honored his installation by his own presence.

On the pregnancy of Elizabeth of York, Henry the Seventh's Queen, that Princess was brought to lye-in at Winchester from motives of state policy, in order to conciliate the Welsh nation, among whom a pretended prophecy had been industriously propagated, that the posterity of their favorite Cadwallader, should regain the sovereignty of Britain. Henry himself affected to trace his genealogy to that King; and the better to fall in with the prevailing prejudice, he caused his new-born son to be christened Arthur, from the circumstance of his having drawn his first breath in the Castle traditionally asserted to have been erected by the famous British hero of that name.

In the year 1522, Henry the Eighth, and his Royal guest, the Emperor Charles the Fifth, spent a week together in this city; on which occasion the celebrated *Round Table* was new painted, and a distich, in honor of the illustrious visitors, placed beneath it.* On the

* "The characters in the names of the twenty-four Knights, and the costume in the dress of the King, were those of the reign of Henry the Eighth, and have since, at each fresh painting, been copied, though incorrectly. The distich was as follows:

the death of Bishop Fox, in this reign, the far-famed Wolsey was invested with the temporalities of this See, in October, 1528, but was not installed till the following year, and then only by proxy: in 1529 he was deprived of his dignity; and this See remained vacant nearly four years, when the King bestowed it on the celebrated Gardiner. The final dissolution of the Monasteries, during the prelacy of this Bishop, and the consequent destruction of religious houses, rendered Winchester scarcely any thing more than a mere skeleton of its former grandeur.

In the year 1554, Winchester became the scene of the meeting, and subsequent nuptials, of Queen Mary and Philip, of Spain, which were solemnized with great splendor. The restitution of many estates, which had been alienated from the Bishopric during the reigns of her brother and father, were restored to the See through the influence of the above Sovereign; but Winchester itself had lost its importance; and in a charter obtained through the solicitations of Sir Francis Walsingham, is described as having fallen "into great ruin, decay, and poverty." This charter was granted by Elizabeth, in the latter part of whose reign, several Catholics were executed here, on the score of religion; though only one Protestant had actually suffered in this city, during the persecution under her more bigotted sister.

The commencement of the year 1603 was distinguished at Winchester, by the singular occurrence of James of Scotland, being proclaimed King of England, by the sole authority of the High Sheriff of Hampshire. This was Sir Benjamin Tichborne, who, on receiving intelligence of the death of Elizabeth, hastened from his family seat, and issued the proclamation, without waiting for orders from the Privy Council in London, who had passed several hours in deliberating on this important subject. The spirited and more decided conduct of the Sheriff, was deservedly rewarded by the new Sovereign, who granted to him and his heirs in perpetuity, the Royal Castle of Winchester, together with an annual pension
of

Carolus, Henricus vivant; defensor uterque;
Henricus fidei, Carolus ecclesiæ."

Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 622.

of 100l. during his own life, and that of his eldest son, whom he also knighted. Before the expiration of the above year, another transaction, of much celebrity, occurred in this city; namely, the trial of the great Sir Walter Raleigh,* Lord Cobham, Lord Grey de Wilton, and others, with whom these noblemen had been implicated through the subtlety of the King's Ministers, on pretended charges of conspiracy. During these proceedings, Winchester presented some faint images of its former splendor; but still continued to decline during the remainder of this reign, though James occasionally visited it in his progresses to the west.

In the eventful reign of Charles the First, the City and Castle of Winchester were secured for the Parliament, by Sir William Waller; but about the conclusion of the year 1643, the Castle was seized and garrisoned by the Royalists, under the command of Sir William, afterwards Lord Ogle. About this period, a design was entertained of re-establishing the King's authority in the adjoining counties of Hampshire and Sussex; and Winchester was appointed as the general rendezvous of the army that was then forming in the west: fortifications were at the same time thrown up round the city, and particularly on the eastern and western sides, where the entrenchments may yet be traced. The activity of Waller, and the defeat of Lord Hopton on Cheriton Down, disconcerted this project; and Waller obtained possession of the city without loss:† the Castle, however, held out for the King; and

* See Beauties, &c. Vol. IV. p. 309, et seq.

† The wanton violence of the soldiery, at their triumphant entrance into Winchester, observes Mr. Milner, "heightened by their religious prejudices, was chiefly displayed against our venerable Cathedral. Here, the monuments of the dead were defaced; the bones of Kings and Bishops thrown about the Church; the two famous statues of the Kings, Charles and James, erected at the entrance into the choir, pulled down; the communion plate, books, hangings, and cushions, seized upon, and made away with; the Church vestments put on by the Heathenish soldiers, riding in that posture in derision about the streets, some scornfully singing pieces of the Common Prayer, while others tooted

and on the Parliament's troops drawing off to besiege Oxford, in conjunction with the Earl of Essex, the city itself was again secured by the Royalists.

The fatal battle of Naseby, in 1645, rendering the King's affairs desperate, and admitting time for new operations against the few places that were still held in his name, an army was dispatched, under Cromwell, to reduce Winchester. The place was summoned on the twenty-eighth of September, and refusing to surrender, the siege was commenced. The chief efforts of Cromwell were directed against the Castle, which, after a week's defence, capitulated on very favorable terms; but not without some suspicion of weakness, or treachery, on the part of the Governor. The works were immediately demolished, by blowing them up with gunpowder: the fortifications of the city were at the same time destroyed, together with the Bishop's Castle of Wolvesey, and several Churches and public buildings.

The next great calamity which Winchester underwent, was a dreadful visitation by the plague, which broke out in the Metropolis in May, 1665, and extended its ravages to this city, very early in the following year. "The dead were here, no less than in London, carried out by cart loads at a time, and buried on the eastern downs, as the turfy mounds there still indicate. Almost all trade and mutual intercourse were at an end, and it was not without great difficulty, that the necessaries of life were procured; and that the third great calamity, famine, was averted, by inducing the country people to bring their provisions to a weekly market, which was held, with all the jealous precautions possible, upon a rising ground, beyond the west gate, where the *Obelisk* is now erected. The custom was for the buyers and sellers to keep at a considerable distance from each other, whilst they made their bargains; which done, the commodities were left by the country people

tooted upon broken pieces of the organs. The stories of the Old and New Testament, curiously beautified with colours, and cut out in carved wook, were utterly destroyed; and of the brass torn from violated monuments, might have been built a house, as strong as the brazen towers in old romances." *Ryker's Mercurius Rusticus, &c.*

people upon a large flat stone, now forming the basis of the said Obelisk, and were fetched away by the inhabitants, who, in return, threw the money agreed upon into a vessel of water provided for the purpose.”*

During the latter part of the reign of Charles the Second, Winchester appeared in a fair way of retrieving some considerable portion of its former splendor, that Monarch having chosen it as his accustomed place of residence, when public business did not require his presence in London. He also purchased the site and remains of the Castle, together with the ground belonging to it, on which he began to erect a spacious and magnificent Palace. His example was followed by many of the nobility and gentry, and a number of handsome mansions was erected at this period: many others were designed, as well as various improvements in the general appearance of the city; but the death of the King, in February, 1685, occasioned the entire miscarriage of the plan. Even the palace itself was left unfinished; and so completely has its original purpose been changed, that, after being frequently used as a prison of war, it is now converted into military barracks for the district.

The last occurrence of any distinguished historical importance that took place in this city, was the trial and execution of Mrs. Alicia Lisle, widow of the famous John Lisle, Esq. a representative for this city, and one of the Judges on the trial of Charles the First. This unfortunate woman, then upwards of seventy years of age, was accused of harboring known rebels, after the battle fought by the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth, at Sedgemore. The jury repeatedly declared themselves not satisfied with the evidence of her guilt, but were at length forced to condemn her by the interference of that abandoned miscreant, Judge Jeffreys, who presided on the bench. The only act of mercy that could be obtained for this victim to tyranny, was the alteration of her sentence from burning, into that of beheading. She was executed in September, 1685.

The

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 428.

The CATHEDRAL of Winchester is one of the most interesting buildings in England, whether considered with respect to the "antiquity of its foundation, the importance of the scenes that have been transacted in it, or the characters of the personages with whose mortal remains it is enriched and hallowed." It is also curious as an instructive example of architecture, whether of the Saxon, Norman, or English style, but particularly of the latter, both in its early and improved state.

The structure erected by the Saxon Kings, Kinegils and Kenewalch, is entirely destroyed; but of that built by Ethelwold, the Crypt, beneath the high altar, is yet remaining: some other parts, as the low aisles at the east end, have been attributed to his age, but erroneously. The walls, the pillars, and the groining of this crypt, are still in nearly their original state, and are, as Mr. Milner observes, "executed in a fine and bold, though simple and unadorned, manner, that gives no contemptible idea of Saxon art."*

"The Saxon Church, built by Kenewalch," continues this gentleman, "did not extend so far towards the west, probably by 150 feet, as Walkelin afterwards built it. In consequence of this scale of the ancient Church, its high altar, tower, transept, and the habitations of the monks, were considerably more to the east, than they were afterwards placed. Walkelin began his work by taking down all that part of the Church that was to the west of the aforesaid tower, in the place of which he built up from the
VOL. VI. DEC. 1804. D foundations,

* History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 8. "The chief alterations of a later date, are the following: a new crypt, with pointed arches, has been made under the eastern extremity of the Lady Chapel; and several masses of masonry have been raised in both crypts; either to form sepulchres for bodies, the monuments of which are above, or to support the fabric over them, which in these parts is extremely defective; a great quantity of rubbish and earth has accumulated on the pavement, which hides the same, together with the bases of the pillars. The entrance into the crypts through what is called the Holy Hole, has been obstructed, and another made from the water-close, under the south-east aisle of the fabric." Ibid. Note. Another entrance has also been made under the north-east aisle from Paradise Garden.

foundations, the present large and massive tower, which hence bore his name; the lofty and capacious north and south transepts, and the body of the Church of the same height with them, and reaching to the full extent of the present fabric. He also built new cloisters, with all the other offices requisite for a Cathedral monastery, in the situation which they ever afterwards held, on the south-west side of the Church." Walkelin's buildings were completed in the year 1093, in the course of which, all the offices that had been left standing of the ancient Monastery, and whatever else remained of the old Church, except the high altar, and eastern aisles, were taken down; and in the next year, the old high altar appears to have been removed, as the relics of St. Swithin, and other saints, were then found under it.*

Abundant specimens of the work of Walkelin yet remain. "The most conspicuous of these," observes Mr. Milner, "is the square massive tower,† 140 feet high, and fifty feet broad, which is seen at the present day, in so perfect and firm a state to all appearance, as when it was built 700 years ago, and which was celebrated in ancient times for being the firmest in all England. It bears internal evidence of the age in which it was built, in the general simplicity and massiveness of its architecture, in its circular windows, adorned with the chevron, and billeted mouldings, and in the capitals and ornaments of its pillars. The inside of the tower, in both its stories above the present ceiling, and up to the very covering of it, is finished with the utmost care, and adorned with various ornaments, chiefly those above-mentioned.

The

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 12.

† Mr. Gilpin allows that the history of Winchester is full of curiosity; and that its antiquities serve to illustrate its history: but amongst all its antiquities, he recollects no object of *beauty* except the old cross. Speaking of the Cathedral as the work of William of Wykeham (only) he expresses his surprise that so elegant an architect should have erected a structure so heavy and disproportioned as the tower; forgetting doubtless that the tower was erected by Walkelin 300 years before Wykeham existed! It is certainly, though heavy in appearance, one of the most magnificent specimens of Norman architecture in this kingdom.

The transepts are also the work of Walkelin; and though they have been the most neglected of any part of the fabric, yet are they in a far more firm and secure state, than any portion of the building that is of a later construction. It is necessary, however, carefully to distinguish the original work from the alterations that have since been introduced: of the former sort, are the walls up to the very summits of them, with their thin perpendicular buttresses, and their narrow simple mouldings;* of the same date and workmanship are the whole of the several windows in both transepts, being large and well proportioned, with circular heads, ornamented with the billeted mouldings, and supported on each side by a plain Saxon (*Norman*) pillar, with a rude kind of square frieze and cornice, resembling those which are seen between the lights in the tower. The alterations that have been introduced into the transepts since Walkelin's time, are chiefly found in the windows; a great proportion of these have been changed at different periods, and in various styles and fashions. In many of them, the circular arch, and billeted moulding, are left to remain; and a pointed window, with Gothic mullions, is inserted under them: in others these have been quite taken away, and a pointed arch has been made to receive the window: in like manner, the St. Catherine's Wheel, on the north front of the said transept, is evidently of a later date than the Norman founder.†

The next alterations made in the Cathedral, were executed under the direction of that eminent Prelate Godfrey de Lucy, who

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appears

* "The interlaced arch-work on the upper part of the south transept, above the clock," is also mentioned by Mr. Milner, as part of the original work, but this is evidently of a later date.

† The Catherine Wheel in some degree resembles the circles of tracery-work in the vaulting of Bishop Waynflete's chantry. It might, however, have been inserted by Bishop Fox, or his cotemporary, Prior Silkstede, about the time that the other alterations were made in the Cathedral, that is about the beginning of the sixteenth century. It is probably the largest in England, its diameter being nearly thirteen feet: that at Elgin Cathedral, Scotland, is only ten feet in diameter.

appears to have commenced the rebuilding of all those parts of St. Ethelwold's structure eastward of the high altar, which Walkelin had left standing, together with the Chapel of Our Lady. Dying in 1204, this Bishop was buried, as was the custom, in the centre of his own works, which are supposed to have been completed about three years afterwards. Lucy's work has been mistakenly attributed to the Saxons by the celebrated Warton; but, as Mr. Milner has judiciously observed, there is no person that is a judge of these matters, who viewing the low aisles at the end of the Church, and there seeing, both on the outside and in the inside, "the ranges of short pillars, supporting arches, formed of the upper part of a trefoil, the narrow oblong windows in different compartments, without any mullions, the obtuse-angled or lance-like heads of these and of the arches themselves, the clusters of thin columns, mostly formed of Purbeck marble, with bold and graceful ornaments on the capitals and bases, together with the intermingled quatrefoils inscribed in circles by way of ornament; who will hesitate to pronounce that the said work was executed in the same century with Salisbury Cathedral, namely, the thirteenth, that in which Godfrey de Lucy died."*

The next improvement of the Cathedral, seems to have been undertaken more from a desire to make it assimilate with the richly ornamented architecture of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, than from any particular decay in the structure itself. The real cause was undoubtedly, as Mr. Milner has suggested, a strong sense of the impropriety of suffering the Cathedral of this opulent and dignified bishopric, to remain destitute of those admired decorations connected with the English style, then so recently matured, and particularly, when so many other religious edifices throughout

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 15. "Upon comparing together the work of our Godfrey de Lucy, particularly in the ancient part of the Lady Chapel, with that afterwards executed by Richard Poore at Salisbury, we clearly see that the former served as a model for the latter: we must not omit, however, that some windows of a later date have been inserted in a part of this building, no less than in that of Walkelin." Ibid.

throughout the kingdom, “ shone forth with all the beauty of tracery, vaultings, spreading columns, shelving buttresses, tapering pinnacles, canopied niches, statuary friezes, and corbels, ramified mullions, and historical windows.”

The Prelate who commenced the new alterations was William de Edyngton, Treasurer and Chancellor to Edward the Third, and predecessor in this See to William de Wykeham, to whom all the honor of the undertaking has been generally adjudged: though Edyngton, as will presently be seen, is at least entitled to an equal share. “ It is incontestible,” observes the author above quoted, “ from his will, made and signed in the year of his decease, (1366,) that he had actually undertaken to finish the rebuilding of the great nave of the Church, though he only lived to execute a small part of it; namely, the two first windows, from the great west window, with the corresponding buttresses, and one pinnacle on the north side of the Church; and in like manner, the first window towards the west, with the buttress and pinnacle on the south side of the same.”

Considerably more praise is due to Bishop Edyngton, than appears from this extract; and it is somewhat surprising that Mr. Milner, whose sagacity has been so laudably exerted in a critical examination of the architecture of this Cathedral, should have failed in discovering, that not only the three windows which he has mentioned, but *three others* also, in the west front of the fabric, are the work of Edyngton. The great west window, and the two smaller windows on each side of it, corresponding with each other, when compared with the other windows of Edyngton's work, and those of Wykeham's, will appear to any spectator, possessed of the least architectural discrimination, to belong to the work of Edyngton, and not to that of Wykeham. Were we not sufficiently convinced of this fact by the character of the windows in question, which are executed with less elegance than those of Wykeham's, being wider and heavier in their appearance, with a greater number of compartments, and supported by mouldings of a broader and more simple cast, and displaying in every part a plainer stile of workmanship; yet we might be led to doubt whe-

ther an architect skilled in his profession, would have began and finished the two principal angles of a building, without having thought of the *front*, which was to join the said angles: but we have the evidence of history to ascertain this point beyond a doubt. Chandler, in his accurate description of Wykeham's work, says only, that Wykeham "rebuilt anew, from the bottom to the top, the body of this Church, together with the two wings or side aisles, and all the glass windows, from the top of the great western window to the belfry, and erected vaultings in the same curious workmanship." It is evident, therefore, that he does not include, in his description of Wykeham's work, the western window any more than the belfry, which is known to be the work of Walke-lin; but, in fact, he is marking the precise extent of Wykeham's work; and the boundaries of it, to the west as well as to the east, are certainly to be understood exclusively. In short, the whole work, as well as every part belonging to these windows, is distinguished by ornaments, and executed in a manner which clearly ascertain them to be the work of Edyngton. The evident proof is this; the trefoils in every compartment, both in the inside and outside, are foliated at the points in the shape of a heart, with certain foliated carvings, which are imitated also in the work of Bishop Fox at the eastern end of the Church. Now, it is clearly apparent, that, if the same ornament be found in the Church of Edyngton, in Wiltshire, which is known to have been built by Bishop Edyngton, who took his name from that place, it would be an almost decisive proof that these windows were built under his direction. In the winter of 1801, the writer had an opportunity of examining that elegant structure, and he was not altogether disappointed: for though, in consequence of occasional destructions, and successive repairs, this ornament has been partially obliterated, yet, in the grand eastern window of the chancel, nine perfect specimens are still to be seen: other specimens may also be found, but particularly in the cenotaph erected to Bishop Edyngton on the south side of the Church; this is profusely decorated with the same kind of ornament. It evidently results from this statement, that the whole, or nearly the whole, of the west front, must be

considered as the work of Edyngton; and though not so beautifully proportioned as some other parts of the Cathedral, is yet executed in a style highly creditable to his taste and judgment.

On the death of Edyngton, the completion of his design was undertaken by the immortal Wykeham, and that "from his mere liberality and zeal for the honour of God," as appears from an authentic deed, noticed by his biographer, Bishop Lowth. By the same instrument, the Prior and Convent agreed to "find the whole scaffolding necessary for the work, and gave the Bishop permission to dig and carry away chalk and sand from any of their lands, as he might think convenient and useful for the same purpose." The name of the architect who superintended the works under Wykeham's direction, was William Winford.

The whole of the nave, from the tower to the work of Edyngton, at the west end, is commonly attributed to Wykeham; but this is not altogether accurate, as the original Norman columns, erected by Walkelin, "may be traced not only at the steps leading up to the choir, where there was a sufficient reason for not casing them, but aloft, amid the very timbers of the roof on both sides of the nave, throughout the greater part of its extent, corresponding in every respect, with those which are still seen reaching up to the timbers in the transepts. In like manner the pointed arches between the columns on the first story, upon a close inspection from the inside of the work, above the aisles, will be found not to have been originally built in that manner, but to have been formed by filling up, and adapting to that shape, the old semicircular arches of Walkelin's second story, the form of which may also be seen in the cross aisles."* It is therefore evident, that as much was preserved of the Norman building as could be fashioned into the improved style; and the undue massiveness of the pillars is thus accounted for, from the necessity of casing them with clustered columns.†

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The

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 10.

† In Wykeham's last will, (vide Lowth's Appendix,) dated the year before his death, (1403,) 500 marks are left for finishing the repairs,

The west end of the Cathedral "was now complete in its kind; but the eastern part of it, from the tower to the low aisles of De Lucy, was far from being conformable to the rest, it consisting of the Norman work of Walkelin, repaired and decorated at subsequent periods, when that great and good prelate, Fox, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, undertook to rebuild it." This he accordingly performed, with all the finished elegance that the English style had at that period acquired. "It is impossible," continues Mr. Milner, "to survey the works of this Prelate, either on the outside of the Church, or within it, without being struck with their beauty and magnificence, in which we find the most exquisite art employed to execute the most noble and elegant designs. We cannot fail, in particular, to admire the vast, but well-proportioned, and ornamented, arched windows, which surround this part, and give light to the sanctuary; the bold and airy flying buttresses, that, stretching over the side aisles, support the upper walls; the rich open battlement, which surmounts these walls; and the elegant sweep that contracts them to the size of the great eastern window; the two gorgeous canopies which crown the extreme turrets; and the profusion of elegant carved work which covers the whole east front, tapering up to a point, where we view the breathing statue of the pious founder resting upon his chosen emblem, the pelican. In a word, neglected and mutilated as this work has been, during the course of nearly three centuries, it still warrants us to assert, that if the whole Cathedral had been finished in the style of this portion of it, this Island, and perhaps all Europe," could not have exhibited a structure more beautiful.*

Bishop Fox apparently intended to have altered the transepts into a similar form with the other parts of the fabric, as the side aisles of his construction, are furnished on each side, "with
ornamental

pairs, "*operis incepti*." It is therefore a mistake to suppose that the works were completed in the Bishop's life-time. The provisions made for finishing them, occupy a considerable portion of that very curious document.

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 19.

ornamental work and windows beyond the line of the transepts, part of which is removed, in order to make room for their admission; as likewise, that the upper tier of windows, being four in number, on the west side of that to the north, was, at the time that Fox's other works were going on, completely altered into the pointed style, and furnished with canopies, busts, and a fascia, on which are seen the initials and devices of Fox's cotemporary and friend, Prior Silkstede."*

At the eastern extremity of this venerable pile is the *Chapel of Our Lady*, which exhibits a great variety of rich work, but somewhat overcrowded with ornament, particularly in the windows. This Chapel was enlarged early in the sixteenth century, in the time of Prior Silkstede, as appears from his devices, and the rebusses of his name, which are carved on different parts.

On entering the Cathedral by the west door, before which a considerable quantity of earth and rubbish has been suffered to accumulate, the attention is first arrested by the vast and lofty columns of the nave, which have been judiciously made to assimilate with the pointed style, by surrounding them with clustered pillars, and other ornaments. Each column is about twelve feet in diameter; the space between them, or intercolumniation, is about two diameters only. The view into the choir is intercepted by a Grecian screen, of the Composite order, designed by Inigo Jones, and executed at the expense of Charles the First. This object, from the incongruity of its style to the other parts of the building, and its hue being different from the rest of the stonework, has a very unpleasant effect: in the niches on each side the opening in the centre, are bronze statues of the above Monarch, and his predecessor, James the First.

Among

* History, &c. of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 20. The initials of the Prior's name appear enveloped in a skein of silk, with the motto *In gloriam Deo*. In another place, the arms of the Bishopric, the Royal arms of that period, &c. are inscribed with the same motto, in Gothic letters of the tenth century. The upper story of windows to the east of the tower, bear a great resemblance to those which have been attributed to Edyngton.

Among the ornaments on the orbs of the groining, and on the fascia below the open gallery that extends on each side of the nave, are the arms and busts of Cardinal Beaufort, and his father, John of Gaunt; together with their devices, the white hart chained,* and other insignia; as also the lily of Waynflete, intermingled with the arms and busts of Bishop WYKEHAM. The space between the fifth and sixth columns, on the south side, is occupied by the tomb and Chantry, or mortuary Chapel, of the last-named Prelate, who caused them to be erected during his life-time, and appointed three monks to say mass in the Chapel, for the repose of his own soul, and the souls of his parents and benefactors: the decease of Wykeham occurred in September, 1404. "The design and execution of the work before us," observes Mr. Milner, "are, perhaps, the most perfect specimens extant of the time when they were performed. The ornaments in general are rich, without being crowded; the carvings are delicate, without being finical. The Chantry is divided in its length, into three arches, the canopies of which, according to a later improvement, are carved to humour the shape of the arches: the middlemost of these, which is the largest, is subdivided below into three compartments, those on the sides consisting of two. There are five tabernacles, or niches, over the head of the monument within the Chapel, besides those on the outside of it, and ten others at the feet, over the ancient altar, for so many statues of Wykeham's patron saints: the foundation of the altar, and a great part of the credence table on the right hand of it, are still visible. The marble figure of this great man, which lies over his mortal remains, exhibits his placid and intelligent features, and is dressed in the episcopal costume. The head rests upon a pillow, supported by two angels; and at the feet are three religious men, in the attitude of prayer."†

Round

* Milner. "This badge of cognizance was given by John of Gaunt, after his return from Castile, at the justings in Smithfield, as Stow reports; yet the King himself, viz. Richard the Second, also adopted for his device, a white hart, crowned, gorged, and sitting."

† History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 25, 26.

Round the slab on which the figure rests, is the following inscription in brass letters, curiously inlaid :

*Wilhelmus dictus Wykeham jacet hic nec victus :
 Istius Ecclesiae presul, reparabit eamque.
 Largus erat dapifer ; probat hoc cum dixit pauper :
 Consiliis pariter regni fuerat bene dexter.
 Hunc docet esse pium fundatio collegiorum :
 Droniae primum stat, Wintoniaeque secundum.
 Iugiter oretis, tumulum quicumque videtis,
 Pro tantis meritis ut sit sibi vita perennis.**

The statues which adorned this Chapel, were destroyed in the time of the Civil Wars, and many of the other ornaments were either mutilated or erased. Since the Restoration, it has been twice or thrice repaired ; and a few years ago, it was new painted, and partly gilded, by a Mr. Cave, of this city. The charges of reparation are defrayed by Wykeham's two foundations, New College, Oxford, and Winchester College.

Beneath the tenth arch, from the west end, and adjoining to the flight of steps leading towards the choir, is the ancient monumental Chapel of Bishop EDYNGTON, which, though in a similar style of architecture to that of Bishop Wykeham, is by no means so ornamental or complete. On the tomb within is the effigies of Edyngton ; and round the slab are Latin inscriptions to his memory, inlaid in brass letters, by which it appears, that he died on the eighth of October, 1366. This Chapel is in a very neglected and mutilated state.

On entering the southern transept from the south aisle of the nave, the original work of Walkelin presents itself ; and here are
 seen

* “ William, surnamed Wykeham, lies here overthrown by Death : —He was Bishop of this Church, and the repairer of it.—He was unbounded in his hospitality, as the poor and the rich can equally prove :—He was likewise a sage politician, and Counsellor of the State.—His piety is manifested by the Colleges which he founded :—the first of which is at Oxford, the second at Winchester.—You, who look upon this monument, cease not to pray—that for such great deserts, he may enjoy eternal life.” *Milner.*

seen " huge round pillars, and vast circular arches, piled upon one another to an amazing height; not, however, without symmetry, and certain simple ornaments; whilst other smaller columns, without either capitals or bases, are continued up the walls, between the arches, to the roof, which is open to the view. The west aisle of the transept, which is portioned off from the rest, was the ancient Sextry, or Sacristy, and now forms the Chapter-House and Treasury: it seems to have consisted of two separate offices. The entrance was to the north, under two great arches, now stopped up, but still adorned with rich Norman work. Against the west wall of the transept are certain ancient presses, bearing upon them the device of Silkstede, the original use of which seems to have been to keep the great habits, or large outside garments of the monks, but which are now employed to contain the surplices of the choristers and singing men. In the south wall, under the clock, is a door, which conducted into certain offices of the ancient Monastery; and on the right is a calefactory, necessary for preserving fire for the thuribles, or censors, that were used in the ancient service. On the right was another passage into the Sacristy: over this is still seen the stair-case leading to the ancient Dormitories, from which the monks had a ready passage into the choir, to perform their midnight service. The east aisle of this transept is divided into two Chapels: that on the right is called Silkstede's Chapel, from the circumstance of the letters of his Christian name being curiously carved on the open work of the screen which is before it. The adjoining Chapel is probably that in which the remains of Bishop Courtney rest: this Chapel is highly ornamented,* Without it, on the left, near the stone steps that lead up to the iron gate, are two stone coffins, with their lids upon them, standing quite out of the ground. On one of them is a mutilated statue; and on the other, a carved figure of a Cathedral Prior, with all his proper ornaments, surrounded by the following inscription:

Hic

* In the windows are the arms of Cardinal Beaufort, and Dean Young; the latter appears to have fitted up this Chapel for his burying-place.

*Hic jacet Willielmus de Basyng, quondam Prior istius Ecclesiae, cujus animae propitiatur Deus, et qui pro anima ejus oraverit, tres annos quinquaginta dies indulgentiae percipiet.**

The architecture of the northern transept is equally ponderous and lofty with that of the southern, and the general style of the ornaments the same, it being, as before mentioned, part of the work of Bishop Walkelin. In the open part of the transept, there appears to have been five altars; and the whole of it has been decorated with figures of Saints, and other embellishments, some of which still remain. Against the west wall, at the extremity of the transept, are the traces of a colossal figure, evidently intended for St. Christopher, carrying the infant Jesus; above it is a partly obliterated representation of the Adoration of the Magi. The west aisle of the transept, consisting of two Chapels, (in one of which is a bold specimen of the horse-shoe arch,) is now shut up from the body of the Church, in order to form work-shops for repairing the fabric. Under the organ-stairs, beneath an arch, is a mutilated bust in stone, of a Bishop, holding a heart between his hands. This has been removed from beneath an arch, with a corresponding canopy in the southern transept, and is traditionally asserted to represent Bishop Ethelmar, half brother to Henry the Third, who died at Paris, in the year 1261, and whose *heart* was brought to England, and interred in this Cathedral, according to his own desire. Lower down the steps, beneath the organ stairs, is a gloomy Chapel, now almost forgotten; but formerly much resorted to at stated periods, and known by the appellation of the Chapel of the Sepulchre. This is ornamented with various rude and ancient fresco paintings, from the History of the New Testament. In front is a stone coffin, raised a little out of the ground, and carved with a Processional Cross, but without inscription, or any other ornament;

* Here lies William de Basyng, formerly Prior of this Church, to whose soul God be merciful; and whosoever prays for the same, shall obtain *three years and fifty days* of indulgence. This W. de Basyng died in 1295; his predecessor, of the same name, resigned his Priory in 1284, and died in 1288. *Ang. Sacra*, p. 325. *Regist. de Pontoz*.

ornament: it is supposed to mark the burial-place of one of the Priors of this Cathedral.

Over the flight of steps which crosses the nave before the entrance of the choir, was the ancient Rood-Loft, which in the Catholic times was adorned with a rich crucifix, with the attendant figures of the Virgin Mary, and St. John the Evangelist, given by Stigand, who was Bishop of this See in 1045, and Archbishop of Canterbury in 1052. The Rood-Loft is thought to have been removed on the erection of the Screen in the time of Charles the First.

The *Choir* has a very venerable and solemn appearance, and is remarkable for having the great tower immediately over it, instead of over the space before the entrance, as in most other Cathedrals. The tower was evidently intended to throw light into this part of the fabric; but in the reign of Charles the First, it was injudiciously ceiled, and adorned in the manner it now appears, as the ornaments themselves indicate. In the centre is an emblem of the Trinity, surrounded by the following chronogram; the numeral letters that are here printed in capitals, being gilt in the original, and of a larger size than the others, are easily separated, and when placed in proper order, compose the date 1634, in which year this alteration was made: SINT DOMVS HVJVS PII REGES NVTRITH, REGINÆ NVTRICES PIÆ.* The corbels, from which the ribs of the vaulting spring, are formed by four busts, representing the above Sovereign, and his father James the First, in alternate succession, and dressed in the habits of their times: above each bust is an appropriate motto. Among the other ornaments are the arms, initials, and devices, of Charles, and his Queen Henrietta Maria, who are also represented in profile, by a curious medallion: the arms of the then Prince of Wales, of Archbishop Laud, Bishop Curle, and Dean Young,† are likewise depicted here.

The

* May pious Kings be the nursing fathers, and pious Queens the nursing mothers, of this Church.

† The arms of Dean Young are, Argent, three piles sable, charged with an amulet, Or, or Argent. It is remarkable, that wherever the
arms

The *Stalls*, which range on each side of the choir, with their misereres,† canopies, pinnacles, and other ornaments, are very ancient; and present a profusion of foliage, crockets, busts, and human and animal figures, boldly designed, as well as executed. On the north side the stalls are terminated by the Pulpit, which, with other ornaments, executed in cane-work, was given by Prior Silkstede. Opposite to the pulpit, on the south side, is the *Episcopal Throne*, which, though elegantly constructed in the Corinthian order, but ill accords with the prevailing style; this was the gift of Bishop Trelawny, about the commencement of the last century.

In the middle of the choir, and opposite to the north and south doors, is the tomb of WILLIAM RUFUS, the last of our Sovereigns that was interred in this ancient mausoleum of Royalty: his bones, however, have been removed, and now repose in one of the mortuary chests that rest on the stone partitions which form the side enclosures of the Presbytery, or altar-part of the choir. The tomb is raised about two feet above the ground, being of the form called *Dos d'Ane*, and consists of grey marble. Though the bones of the King had been long removed, this tomb was again opened during the Civil Wars, and among the remaining ashes

was

arms of the See of Winchester have been placed by this Dean, the sword and the key are always transposed. This is not from ignorance in heraldry, but from design: Prior Silkstede, in many places, has done the same. It would appear that the title of Dean having succeeded to that of Prior, or rather out of the two names of Dean and Prior, the former alone, having retained the Deanery as well as Priory, may assume the arms of the Bishopric reversed.

* “That small shelving stool, which the seats of the stalls formed when turned up in their proper position, is called a *Miserere*: on these the monks and canons of ancient times, with the assistance of their elbows on the upper part of the stalls, half supported themselves during certain parts of their long offices, not to be obliged always to stand or kneel. This stool, however, is so contrived, that if the body became supine by sleep, it naturally fell down, and the person who rested upon it, was thrown forward into the middle of the choir.”

Milner's History, Vol. II. p. 36.

was found a large gold ring, a small silver chalice, and some pieces of cloth embroidered with gold thread.

The vaulting, which covers the whole choir from the tower to the east window, is the work of Bishop Fox, "and contains, on the orbs of the tracery, a profusion of arms, and other ornaments, curiously carved, and richly painted and gilt, in the highest preservation. Among them are the bearings and devices of the houses of Tudor and Lancaster, together with those of Castile, in honor of John of Gaunt, father of Cardinal Beaufort, the latter of whom left money for ornamenting the Cathedral." Here also are the arms of the Sees of Exeter, Bath and Wells, Durham, and Winchester; over all of which Fox had presided. From the altar to the east window, the vaulting bears none but pious ornaments, being the several implements of our Saviour's Passion, namely, the cross, crown of thorns, nails, hammer, scourges, &c. together with the faces of Pilate, and his wife, of the High Priest, and many others, all remarkable "for the ingenuity of their design, and the original perfection and freshness which they have retained during almost three centuries."

The elegant partitions above mentioned, which separate the Presbytery from the north and south aisles, are also the work of Bishop Fox; but some portion of the expense of erection was defrayed by the legacy of Cardinal Beaufort, and the donations of some other benefactor, now unknown. These partitions display the arms and mottoes of the above personages, and also the arms of Edward the Confessor, as well as the date 1525, which marks the period of their construction. The arches in the open-work are chaste and highly-finished specimens of the pointed style; but some of the ornaments on the cornices above them, are partly Grecian. Upon the top of these partitions, over the centre of each compartment, are ranged six wooden *Chests*, containing the remains of several of the most exalted personages that have been interred in this Cathedral. The first person that appears to have collected these perishable remnants of humanity, was Bishop de Blois, who lived in the twelfth century: but when the choir was rebuilt by Fox, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, the

2

present

present chests were ordered to be made by that Prelate; and the bones being removed into them, they were placed in the situations which they now occupy. Each chest is carved, painted, and gilt; and inscribed with the names and epitaphs of the illustrious characters whose remains they contain. The names inscribed are those of the Kings KINEGILS; ADULPHUS for *Ethelwolph*: KENULPH;* EGBERT; EDMUND; (son of Alfred;) EDRED; CANUTE; and RUFUS; of Queen EMMA; and of the Bishops ALWYN, WINA, and STIGAND.† From the inscription *Hæc in cista A. D. 1661 promiscue recondita sunt ossa principum et prælatorum sacrilega*

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barbaric

* This name is mistakenly referred, by Mr. Milner, to Kenewalch, the son of Kinegils, and joint-founder of the Cathedral; but the person really meant, is Cynewulphus, or Kenulph, who was King of the West Saxons within twenty years of King Egbert. He died in the year 784; and his body is expressly stated to have been buried at Winchester, whereas it is not so certain that Kenewalch was buried here.

Vide Sax. Chron.

† These chests were opened a few years ago, by some officers of distinguished talents and family, belonging to the West York regiment of militia, then quartered in this city. From the account communicated to Mr. Milner, by one of these gentlemen, Henry Howard, Esq. of Corby Castle, in Cumberland, the following particulars are extracted.

“The first chest, inscribed *Kinegils* and *Adulphus*, contains two skulls, and two sets of thigh and leg bones. We measured the skulls and thigh-bones, to discover whether there was any difference in the size from the present race of men; and found the first skull, from the posterior part of the *ossa temporis*, to measure five inches and three quarters; and the second skull, five inches and a half, and one sixteenth of an inch: these measurements, and indeed those of the others, prove that there was no superiority of size. From the contents of the chest, it does not appear that the bones do not belong to the Kings with whose names it is inscribed:

“The second chest, inscribed *Egbert* and *Kenulph*, contains three skulls; one of which is very small. One thigh-bone wanting a fellow, is very stout, and measures nineteen inches and three quarters in length; but the two leg-bones, one of which is rather deformed, and the two hip-bones belonging to this body, are in the chest, and answer exactly. There are also two other thigh-bones, and two leg-bones, that pair; so that;

*barbarie dispersa A. D. 1642,** which occurs on two of the chests, it appears that the remains of these Sovereigns and Prelates have been confusedly intermingled; and from a late examination of the chests, this is clearly evinced to be the fact: it is even probable, from different circumstances, that the bones had been intermixed before their removal by Bishop Fox. The original epitaph on Queen Emma, which once existed in this Cathedral, is recorded to have been as follows:

Hic Emmam cista Reginam continet ista.
 Duxit Etheldredus Rex hanc, et postea Cnutus.
 Edwardum parit hæc, ac Hardi-canutum,
 Quator hos reges vidit scepra tenentes.
 Anglorum Regum fuit hæc sic mater et uxor.†

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Above

that, with the exception of the third scull, these may be the bones of the aforesaid Kings.

“Third and fourth chests, bearing the names of *Canute, Rufus, Emma, Wina, Alwyn*, and *Stigand*: neither of these contain any scull; but they are full of thigh and leg-bones, one set of which, in the third chest, is much smaller and weaker than the rest; this, with the supernumerary scull in the second chest, might possibly have belonged to Queen Emma.

“The fifth chest, inscribed *Edmund*, contains five sculls, and three or four thigh-bones. One of the sculls, from the state of the sutures, belonged to a very old man; another also belonged to an old person; these, therefore, might have belonged to Wina and Alwyn.

“The sixth chest, inscribed *Edred*, contains many thigh-bones, and two sculls.—It is to be observed, that the sculls actually at present in the chests, are twelve in number, which is also the number of the names inscribed on the same chests. It will also appear, from the size of the bones, that there was no difference of stature from the present age.”

* “In this chest, in the year 1661, were promiscuously laid together, the bones of the Princes and Prelates, which had been scattered about by sacrilegious barbarism in the year 1642.”

† “The sense of this epitaph may be thus rendered into English, “*Here rests in this chest, Queen Emma. She was first married to King Ethelred, and afterwards to King Canute: to the former she bare Edward, to the latter Hardicanute. She saw all these four Kings wielding the sceptre; and thus was the wife and mother of English Kings.*”

Above the communion table, which is made to resemble an altar, rises a lofty canopy of wood-work, consisting of festoons, and other carvings in alto-relievo. This heavy and tasteless object, together with the rails, was executed in the reign of Charles the First. Beneath the canopy is fixed the celebrated altar-piece by West, representing *Our Saviour raising Lazarus from the dead*. The design and composition of this picture are extremely fine; and the expression given to the principal figures, is treated with great judgment and truth; though it has been asserted, from a mistaken conception of the passages* from which the subject is derived, that the character of the Redeemer is too placid for the astonishing miracle he is here working. The benignity and philosophic attention of the Apostles are well expressed; and the grace, beauty and sorrow of Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus, are admirably depicted.

Behind, and partly concealed by the canopy and altar-piece, is a magnificently carved *Screen*, in stone-work; supposed to be the richest and most exquisite specimen of the pointed style in England. This was executed in the time of Bishop Fox; and though greatly neglected, and clogged with whitewash, still exhibits an unrivalled delicacy of workmanship. It contains a variety of niches, with richly-ornamented canopies, beneath each of which was formerly a statue; but these having been demolished on the Reformation, their places are now occupied by Grecian urns, a substitution that displays more liberality than taste.† On the span-drills of the doors are fine carvings in basso-relievo, from the history of the Annunciation, &c. of the Blessed Virgin. These are colored, and appear nearly as fresh as when executed 300 years ago.

E 2

“Immediately

* St. John, Chap. XI. v. 33—43.

† The expense of erecting them, and of laying down the present rich marble pavement of the Presbytery, was defrayed by a legacy of 800*l.* bequeathed for the purpose, in 1700, by Dr. William Harris, a Prebendary of this Cathedral.

“Immediately above the base-work of the screen, the eye catches the rich painting of the east window, which, though clouded with dust and cobwebs, still glows with a richness of colors that modern art has been unable to imitate.” The stained glass of this window, however, as well as of the others round the choir, are little more than remnants of former splendor, most of the figures having been mutilated and disarranged at the time of the Civil Wars. They chiefly consist of Apostles, Prophets, and Bishops, with appropriate legends and symbols. The design and expression of many of these figures are finely imagined, but their excellence can hardly be perceived without the aid of a glass.

Leaving the choir, and passing into the south aisle, the first object that attracts attention, is the gorgeous Chapel, or Chantry, of BISHOP FOX, which, from the many hours spent by that Prelate in this his destined place of interment, acquired the appellation of Fox’s Study. “There is a luxuriency of ornament,” observes Mr. Milner, “in the arches, columns, and niches, with which it is covered, that baffles minute description; and might appear excessive, were not the whole executed with exact symmetry, proportion, and finished elegance; and had it not been the architect’s intention to shut up this Chapel from the side aisle; even the groining in the small niches, which are multiplied to the number of fifty-five, is a matter of attention and study, it being different in each of them; and yet all are formed on true architectural principles. In an elegant oblong niche under the third arch, lies the figure of the founder, which he, for the sake of humility, and public instruction, chose should be represented as an emaciated corpse in a winding sheet, with the feet resting on a Death’s head.” Here Fox was buried, as clearly appears from different passages in Godwin, and the *Anglia Sacra*; though some authors have assigned him a grave in another part of the Cathedral. The open-work of the arches was originally filled with painted glass; but this was destroyed during the troubles in the reign of Charles the First. The roof is ornamented with the royal arms of the house of Tudor, emblazoned and gilt; and, with the founder’s own arms, and favorite device, the pelican. The ancient altar has been destroyed,

stroyed, together with three large statues, and nine smaller ones, that occupied an equal number of niches above it, and which are still in good preservation.

Parallel with the above, and occupying the entire space behind the altar, is another Chapel, in which the early conventual mass was celebrated every morning, immediately after the holding of the chapter: here also was kept the magnificent shrine of St. Swithin, the gift of King Edgar, which is recorded to have been of silver, gilt, and adorned with precious stones.

At the north end of this Chapel, and corresponding in situation, but not in architecture, with Fox's Chantry on the south, is the Chapel of BISHOP GARDINER; an absurd intermixture of the Pointed and Ionic styles, "both indifferent in their kinds," Gardiner was buried in this spot; but his bones are supposed to have been removed out of their sepulture, from a detestation of his character; and the Chapel itself has been much damaged from the same principle. The pavement is entirely torn up, with the exception of a slab, on which are traces of the following inscription in Saxon characters:

Hic jacet Edmundus Rex Eweldredi regis filius.

This stone covered the remains of King Edmund, whose bones are now supposed to rest in one of the mortuary chests of the choir, and whom his father Alfred admitted to a participation of the Sovereignty. Edmund died in the year 870, as appears from the Saxon Chronicle.

On the Screen which separates the work of Bishop de Lucy from that of Fox, on the east side of the three last-described Chapels, is a range of canopied niches, in which formerly were statues of Christ and the Virgin, and of seventeen of the most illustrious benefactors to this Cathedral; but these were entirely destroyed by the iconoclasts of the seventeenth century. In the lower part of this Screen is a small arched way, now blocked up with masonry. "This led down a stone stair-case into the western crypt, immediately under the high altar and sanctuary, which being the destined place for the reception of relics, and for the interment of

persons of eminent sanctity, was hence called *The Holy Hole*; by which name it constantly occurs in the original history of this city.* This receptacle has been erroneously supposed the original burial-place of the personages whose bones are now preserved in the chests round the choir: its real destination, however, is clearly expressed by a Latin inscription over the said vault, and which has been thus translated. *The Bodies of different Saints are here buried in peace, through whose merits many miracles shone forth.*†

In front, and just before the Holy Hole, is a *Slab*, or grave-stone, of a remarkable size, its length being twelve feet, and its width, five: this is asserted by Warton, and other writers on the antiquity of Winchester, to cover the remains of St. Swithin, the great patron Saint of the Cathedral and city. The inaccuracy of this statement was, however, ascertained in the summer of 1797, when the slab was raised, and the grave being purposely opened, in the presence of several gentlemen, a *complete* skeleton was found, with "every rib and joint in its proper place." This was at once demonstrative of the falsehood of the tradition, as the bones of the Saint are known to have been translated from their original burial-place, and the *scull* to have been carried from Winchester to Canterbury, (and deposited there under Christ's Altar,) by St. Elphege, on his promotion to the latter See.‡ From the traces of a mitre and crosier on the slab, and the several appearances

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 71.

† Ibid.

‡ "In quo altari B. Elphegus caput Sancti Swithuni quod ipse a pontificatu Wintoniensi in archiepiscopatum Cantuariensem, translatus secum tulerat, cum multis aliorum sanctorum reliquiis solemniter reposuerat." Gervas. Dorob. De Combust. Et Repar. Dorob. Ecc. apud Twysd, p. 1291.—The principal circumstances that were observed on opening the grave, are thus detailed in a letter quoted by Mr. Milner, from H. Howard, Esq. When the slab was raised, "there appeared an oblong tomb, or opening, seven feet long, and two feet five inches broad, formed of slabs of a fine white stone, (similar to that used in Bishop Fox's Chapel,) neatly polished, jointed with care and art, and

ances attending the opening of the grave, Mr. Milner, with much probability, supposes the person interred there, to have been Prior Silkstede.

The magnificent Chantries of Cardinal Beaufort, and of Bishop Waynflete, which correspond with each other in form and situation, occupy the middle arches of that part of the Cathedral erected by BISHOP DE LUCY; who lies buried beneath a flat tomb of grey marble, raised about two feet above the surface of the ground, near the centre of his own work, and directly opposite to the entrance into the Chapel of Our Lady. Tradition, as well as the voice of several antiquaries, has pointed this out as the actual tomb of King Lucius, the reputed original founder of this Cathedral. The absurdity of this tale, omitting the fact of its not

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having

as clean and dry as if it had been just finished on that day. After removing about two feet five inches of rubbish, consisting of pulverized stone and decayed mortar, the flat lid of an oak coffin appeared, in a very moist, spongy, and decayed state. The coffin, or rather chest, which contained the bones, was about six feet and a half long, one foot ten inches broad, and not quite one foot deep. In some places it was broken into by the weight of the rubbish, which, in consequence, was found mixed with the bones: there was no lead in the inside, nor any inscription. The bones lay in an undisturbed state; the jaw, and every rib and joint, were in their places; the hands were crossed a little below the short ribs. The vertebræ of the back, and the smaller bones, which lay next the under part of the coffin, were much decayed; but the thigh, leg, and arm bones, were still solid. The thigh bones measured, from the extreme points, only eighteen inches and three quarters: on the scull, which is also small, there remained the impression of linen, or fine stuff, apparently white, but no hair. A black serge, probably a Monk's cowl, seems to have covered the whole body; and on the decay of the flesh, to have adhered to the bones: towards the feet it appeared in folds. The legs were covered with leather boots, or gaiters, sewed on, and neatly stitched; part of the thread was still to be seen, and the leather retained some consistency; it was very damp; I might also say, wet. The soles were pointed at the toe, and very narrow under the middle of the foot; and so small as to scarcely appear of the size of a man's foot: the boot part, which is very wide, and came above the knee, was not adherent to the soles."

having been mentioned in any ancient author, is its own refutation: its origin is, perhaps, equally obvious; the similarity between the names De Lucy, and Lucius, having occasioned the remembrance of the Prelate to be lost in a fond contemplation of the imaginary virtues of the Monarch.

The Chantry of BEAUFORT, observes Mr. Milner, "for elegance of design and execution, would be admired by the generality of spectators, no less than by connoisseurs, as the most elegant in the Cathedral, if not in the whole kingdom, were it not neglected, and consigned to dust and ruin, equally by his family, his foundation, and his Cathedral; to all which he proved so liberal a benefactor. The columns, though of hard Purbeck marble, are shaped into elegant clusters: nothing can exceed the beauty of the fan-work in the ceiling; of the canopies, with their studded pendants; and of the crocketed pinnacles; though of these a horse-load has been taken down, which is kept in one of the neighbouring Chapels. The low balustrade and tomb, the latter of which is lined with copper, and was formerly adorned on the outside with the arms of the deceased, enchased on shields, are of grey marble. The figure on the tomb represents Beaufort in the proper dress of a Cardinal; viz. the scarlet cloak and hat, with long depending cords ending in tassels, of ten knots each. At the upper end of the Chantry, under a range of niches, which have been robbed of their statues, stood the Altar, at which, in virtue of his last Will, (signed only two days before his death,) three masses were daily said for the repose of his own soul, and those of his parents and Royal relations." Round the upper part of the tomb was an inscription on a brass filleting; but this has been long torn off. The features of the Cardinal, as represented by the figure, have a very placid cast; he died on the eleventh of April, 1447.

Bishop WAYNFLETE'S Chantry is finished in the same elegant style as that of Beaufort; and from the great attention that is given by his foundation at Magdalen College, to keep it clean, and in perfect repair, is in general regarded as the most beautiful. "The central part of the Chapel, which in Beaufort's monument is left open, is here inclosed with light arch-work, surmounted with an elegant

elegant cornice, in which, and in the work in general, we observe that the arches begin to flatten. The figure of the Bishop appears in his full pontificals, of mitre, crosier, casula, stole, maniple, tunicle, rocket, alb, amice, sandals, gloves, and ring. He is represented in the attitude of prayer, emblematically offering up his heart; which he holds in his hands, in allusion to that passage of the Psalmist; *My soul is always in my hands.*”* Waynflete died in the year 1486.

The eastern extremity of the Cathedral is terminated by the spacious *Chapel of Our Lady*, and a smaller Chapel, inclosed on each side. The former was originally built by De Lucy, but was lengthened to twice its first extent, by the Priors Hunten and Silkstede; whose initials and rebuses occur both on the groining, and other parts. The most considerable portion of the work was, indeed, completed and ornamented by Silkstede, whose portrait, with the insignia of his office, is yet visible over the piscina. In this Chapel are also traces of various *Fresco Paintings*, executed in the time of the above Prior, and representing different subjects in scriptural, profane, and legendary history; but chiefly relating to the miracles ascribed by the Monks to the prayers of the Holy Virgin. These delineations are now in a very imperfect state, from the various attempts that have been made to deface them; yet are they still curious, from the knowledge which they convey to us of the customs of former times.† The marriage ceremony between Philip of Spain and Queen Mary, was solemnized in this Chapel; and the chair in which the latter sat is yet shown.

On the south of the above is Bishop LANGTON's Chapel, which displays some fine carvings in oak, of vine leaves, grapes, armorial bearings, &c. together with the motto *Laus tibi Christi*, very frequently repeated. Near the centre of the Chapel is the Bishop's tomb, now entirely deprived of its ornaments, though originally extremely

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 60.

† For an explanation of the subjects of as many of these paintings as are not entirely defaced, see Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 64; and Carter's Specimens of Ancient Sculpture and Painting.

tremely elegant. Langton died by the plague in 1500, having been previously elected to the See of Canterbury. The rebus of his name, "a musical note called a *long* inserted in a *tun*," occurs on the groining, amidst a profusion of others.

The Chapel on the north is supposed to be that of Bishop *Orleton*, as the style of the ornaments agree with his age; and Richardson, in his notes to Godwin, asserts, that he was buried in his own Chapel in this Church: no memorial of him, however, remains here. The whole vaulting is covered with the figures of angels. On the north side is the sepulchre of Bishop MEWS, a distinguished partizan of royalty, who served as an officer during all the troubles of Charles the First; and afterwards taking orders, was advanced to many Church preferments by the favor of Charles the Second; and was at length promoted to this See. His episcopal functions do not appear to have repressed his military ardor, as the King's artillery, at the battle of Sedgemore, was guided by his directions, and greatly contributed to the success of the day: his mitre and crosier are suspended over his tomb. Another monument in this Chapel, was erected to the memory of RICHARD WESTON, Earl of Portland, and Lord High Treasurer in the reign of Charles the First. On the tomb is a fine recumbent figure of the Earl, in bronze; and at the side are marble busts of several of his family: he died in the year 1634.

Among the eminent personages interred in this Cathedral, besides those already mentioned, are the following, several of whom have had handsome monuments erected to their memory: Hardicannute, son of the Danish King Canute; Earl Beorn, son of Estrith, Canute's sister; Richard, second son of the Conqueror; the Bishops Peter de Rupibus, Henry de Blois, Giffard, John de Pointes, Richard Toclyve, Woodlock, Horne, Morley, Tremnel, Cooper, Hoadley, Willis, and Thomas; Dean Cheyney; Sir John Clobery, who assisted Monk in planning and effecting the Restoration; Sir Isaac Townsend, Knight of the Garter; the late Earl of Banbury; the late eminent Dr. Joseph Warton; and the celebrated Mrs. Montague. The monuments of Bishop Willis, and Dean Cheyney, and the medallion of Bishop Hoadley, are particularly

worthy of observation. An ancient figure of a *Croisader*, of the princely family of De Foix, in the north aisle, is also deserving of notice.

The last interesting object that remains to be described in this Cathedral, is the celebrated and ancient *Font*, the carvings on the sides of which have frequently exercised the sagacity of antiquaries. "This stands within the middle arch of Wykeham's part of the Church, on the north side, and consists of a square block of dark marble, supported by pillars of the same material; it is covered on the top, and the four sides, with rude carvings, which bespeak its antiquity. The most distinguished ornaments of the top are doves, emblematic of the Holy Ghost, which appear breathing into phials, (surmounted with crosses,) which are supposed to contain the two kinds of sacred chrism made use of in baptism. The rest of the ornaments of this part consist of Saxon zig-zag, pellets, &c. On the north and east sides, the dove is still repeated in various attitudes, together with a salamander, emblematic of fire, in allusion to the text, "*He shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost and with Fire.*"* The sculptures on the south and west sides, are of more elaborate design, and, till elucidated by the researches of Mr. Milner, have been constantly referred to events very distant from their original appropriation. The real age of the Font is probably that of Bishop Walkelin, the rebuilder of this Cathedral, and founder of the Church at East Meon, in which there is a Font exactly like the above. The sculptures have generally been thought to represent the most important actions in the life of St. Birinus; but the above antiquary has assigned them to "St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, who flourished in the fourth century, and was celebrated as the patron Saint of children. His name, which was famous throughout Christendom from the time of his decease, became much more celebrated in the west, upon his relics being carried off from the said city, then subject to the Mahometans, to that of Bari in Italy, in an expedition fitted out for that express purpose. This happened

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 76.

pened about the time of the Norman Conquest, a period with which the architecture of the Church, represented on the south side, agrees better than with any other period, either more ancient or later.*

The

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II, p. 78. The history of St. Nicholas, as abridged by this Gentleman, from *The Portiforium seu Breviarium, in usum Sarum*, from *The Golden Legend*, and from the translation by Surius from the Greek of Simeon Metaphrastes, together with its application to the carvings on the Font, are given in the following extract.

“ The first splendid action in the life of this Saint, which gave occasion to his being named the Patron of Children, was his saving the virtue of three virgins, which their father, a man of noble birth, but reduced to poverty, was tempted to make a traffic of. St. Nicholas, to whom his parents had transmitted an ample fortune, hearing of this intention, and of the occasion of it, tied up a considerable sum of gold in a cloth, and, to avoid the ostentation of his charity, threw it by night into the bed-chamber of this unhappy father; who, awakening, and finding a sufficient sum to apportion one of his daughters, immediately married her to a person of equal birth. The same circumstance happening the following night, the father took care to be upon the watch the third night for his unknown benefactor; when, discovering St. Nicholas to be the person, he fell at his feet, calling him the saviour of his own and of his daughters' souls.

“ Let us now inspect the south side of the Font, we shall see this history represented, with only those few deviations which are necessary for artists, in order to give a comprehensive view of a complete transaction. A Bishop, with his mitre, crosier, &c. is seen in front of a Saxon Church, representing the Cathedral of Myra. Before him kneels an old man with a long beard, who kissing his hand, at the same time receives from it into his own right hand, a round mass, curiously tied up at the ends, which, with his left hand, he gives to a female figure, as appears by the breasts, long hair, and ornaments. Receiving thus her marriage-portion with her left hand, she holds out her right towards a male figure, with short hair on his head and chin, who is proved to be a man of noble birth, and a fit husband for her, by the hawk which he carries on his fist. In the intermediate space, or back-ground, another of these devoted daughters, with long hair, and the same kind of fillet that her sister wears, is actually celebrating her marriage with a man richly dressed;

The dimensions of the Cathedral, as stated in Milner's, and in Gale's Antiquities, are as follow. Whole length of the Cathedral,

dressed; they join their right hands, whilst her left is placed upon her breast, and his left holds a purse containing a portion.

"The next remarkable incident in the life of St. Nicholas, is his voyage to the Holy Land. Having embarked for this purpose, in a vessel bound to Egypt, he foretold a dreadful storm, which soon overtook, and seemed on the point of overwhelming it. The sailors, who, confident in their nautical foresight and skill, had derided the Saint's prediction, now, with abundance of tears, besought him to pray for their delivery; which, when he had done, the storm was appeased, and they arrived in safety at Alexandria.

"Let us now examine the west side of the Font, which, consisting of four different compartments, is unavoidably crowded. The first of these exhibits a ship, with ropes, a mast, and a rudder, but without any sail, the sure sign of its being in a storm. The vessel admits but of three figures; of these, one is laboring at the helm; a second, with his hand up to his eyes, appears to be weeping; and a third, of superior dignity, with his face averted, and his hands stretched over the waves, seems to be appeasing them by his prayers.

"St. Nicholas being landed at Alexandria, the fame of the above-mentioned miracle, and of another which he had wrought at sea, in restoring to life a mariner, who had been killed by a fall from the mast, occasioned a great number of persons, laboring under different disorders and calamities, to be brought to him, all which he cured, and relieved, according to their several wants. Hence, the next compartment to that which we have explained, exhibits two persons with sorrowful countenances, and in a recumbent posture, denoting their being ill, before a Bishop, who, holding one of them by the hand, seems to be raising him up to health; whilst a third, with uplifted hands and joyful countenance, is expressing his astonishment and gratitude for the miraculous cure which he has just experienced. The lowest figure of all, with a cup in his hand, belongs to a different subject, as we shall afterwards show.

"The most celebrated act in the life of St. Nicholas, next to that of his saving the chastity of the three virgins, was his preserving the lives of three young men of his Cathedral city of Myra, whom the corrupt and cruel Prefect of the same, Eustachius, had condemned to death whilst the Saint was absent in Phrygia, appeasing a popular commotion there,

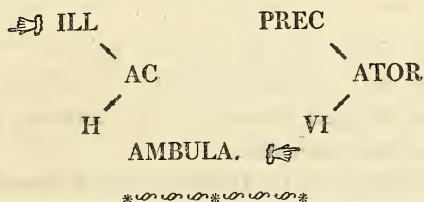
dral, 545 feet; length of the nave, from the west porch to the iron door at the entrance of the choir, 351 feet; length of the choir, 136 feet;

there, which threatened the worst of consequences. Being informed, by a speedy messenger, of what was transacting in the aforesaid city, he flies back to it, and finds the condemned youths at the place of execution, with their necks bared, and a headsman with his uplifted axe on the point of inflicting the fatal stroke; when, rushing forward, he snatches the instrument of death from his hands; and, being aided by the authority of certain imperial officers, of superior rank to Eustachius, whom he had engaged to accompany him for this very purpose out of Phrygia, he orders the young men to be released, and leads them back into the city in triumph. In allusion to this history, we see in the third compartment of this side of the Font, three persons in a recumbent posture, ready to be beheaded; their bodies being covered with a kind of mantle, to save the labor of the statuary. The executioner stands by them with his uplifted axe; over whose shoulder another person appears to be giving orders for the tragedy. The holy Bishop's figure is the next; though, to prevent the necessity of repeating it in so contracted a space, he is represented as attending to another figure, which belongs to a different subject.

“The last story here represented, relates to a miracle ascribed to St. Nicholas after his death. It does not occur in Metaphrastes, who confines his narration to the time of the Saint's life, but is reported at length by Jacobus de Voragine, and is alluded to in the Sarum Breviary. A certain Nobleman being destitute of children, made a vow to St. Nicholas, that if, through his prayers, he should be blessed with a son, he would conduct him, when of a proper age, to the Saint's Church at Myra, and there offer up a golden cup as a memorial of the heavenly favor. His vow being heard, he ordered a rich cup to be made for his intended offering; but when it was brought to him, he was so much pleased with the workmanship of it, that he resolved to keep it for his domestic use; and caused another like it to be made, by way of fulfilling his obligation. Being on his voyage to Myra, with his son and both the cups, he ordered him to reach a little water, for some purpose or other, in that which was first made. The youth, in attempting to perform this, fell over-board, and sunk to the bottom of the sea with the vessel in his hand. The father now reflected with sorrow on his irreligious conduct, in preferring the gratification of his fancy to the exact performance

feet; length of the Chapel of Our Lady, 54 feet; breadth of the Cathedral, 87 feet; breadth of the choir, 40 feet; length of the transept, 186 feet; height of the tower, 150 feet.

Previous to the year 1632, the Cathedral was open as a general thoroughfare into the close and southern suburbs of the city; but this being considered as a disrespectful custom, a new passage, called the *Slype*, was then opened, and commemorated by the following anagrams; the first of which is inscribed on a pier of the Cathedral, near the west entrance of the *Slype*.



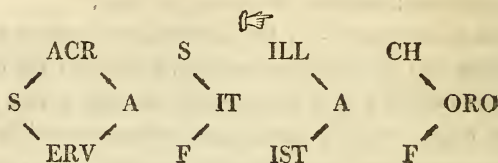
Illac precatore hac viator ambula; implying, "That way, thou who comest to pray; this way, thou who art pursuing thy journey, walk." The second inscription is over an arch, at the east entrance of the *Slype*.

1632

mance of his religious vow. Nevertheless, he pursued his voyage to Lycia, and placed the second cup upon the altar of the Saint; which, as often as he performed, it was always thrown off to a distance. At length, however, whilst the Nobleman was offering up his prayers, and the spectators were meditating on the prodigy they had seen, behold! the lost child suddenly enters into the Church, and relates that, when he fell into the sea, a venerable Bishop had appeared to him, who not only brought him safe to the shore, but also conducted him to the city of Myra. By way of representing this story, we see a child, as appears by his countenance, lying in the water, under the rudder of the ship in one of the former compartments, with a cup in his right hand, finely wrought, and studded with jewels. It was a contrivance of the statuary to place the drowning child where the sea had been before represented, in order to find room for exhibiting the completion of the miracle. Accordingly, we see the same child, as appears by the dress and countenance, in the present compartment, bearing the same studded cup in his right hand, and conducted by St. Nicholas, who has hold of his left."

1632

CESSIT COMMUNI PROPRIUM JAM PERGITE QUA FAS.*



Sacra sit illa choro, serva fit ista foro; signifying, "That way is consecrated to the Choir; this way leads to the Market." In forming the Slype, the great buttress near the south-west angle of the Cathedral has been perforated.

The great Cloisters of the Cathedral, which extended 180 feet east and west, and 174 feet north and south, were destroyed during the prelacy of Bishop Horne, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but on the east side of the quadrangle which they formed, is yet remaining a dark, unornamented, ancient passage, or cloister, ninety feet in length, that led to the Infirmary, and other offices of the Monastery. Southward of this is a door-way that conducted to the *Chapter-House*, the site of which now forms the Dean's Garden. "This was a magnificent building, of Norman workmanship, as appears by some of the pillars and arches which formed the seats, still remaining in the walls. It was ninety feet square, and vaulted, having a large pillar in the centre to support the same; and being covered on the outside, above the dormitories, with sheets of lead, which gave occasion for its destruction about the year 1570."† The *Refectory*, or Hall, was about forty-one feet in length, twenty-three broad, and nearly forty high: it is now divided into two stories. "Under the Refectory, and Vestibule, are still to be seen two *Kitchens*, arched over in the Norman fashion,

* Private property has yielded to public utility: proceed now by the way that is opened to thee.

† Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p 92.

fashion, and supported by single pillars in the middle of them, with stone trussels, curiously carved, to support dressers: they are at present divided into different apartments; but it is easy to trace out, that each of them was originally thirty-six feet long, and twenty-six feet broad. To the north of the Kitchen was the Cellarer, or Steward's quarters; and beyond that, near the Church itself, the Buttery.* The *Prior's Hall*, and some other parts of his lodgings, now compose the *Deanery*: the former has been divided into four apartments. Other remains of the conventual buildings may be traced in the vicinity of the Cathedral; and the site of more is occupied by the prebendal gardens.

When the Priory of St. Swithin was surrendered to Henry the Eighth, on the general suppression of religious houses, its annual revenues were estimated, according to Dugdale and Speed, at 1507l. 17s. 2d. Soon afterwards, the site of the Monastic buildings, and great part of the former revenues, were settled on the new establishment, for a Dean, twelve Prebendaries, six Minor Canons, two lay Clerks, eight Choristers, and other members. William Kingsmill, the last Prior, had so effectually conciliated the favor of the rapacious Henry, by his ready compliance with the mandate of surrender, and success in inducing his fellow Monks to follow his example, that he was promoted to the Bishopric of Salisbury in the ensuing year. Many learned persons are recorded as having been members of this foundation, both under its first establishment for regular Canons, and its latter for Benedictine Monks.

One of the most celebrated institutions at Winchester, is the COLLEGE, founded by Bishop Wykeham between the years 1387 and 1393, on the site of an ancient Grammar School, known to have existed before 1136, and probably much earlier.† Wykeham had taken the government of this school, in which he had himself been educated, into his own hands; and the year after he had completed his College at Oxford, he commenced his foundation in

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this

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 96.

† Lowth's Life of Wykeham, p. 72.

this city, intending it as a preparatory seminary for the former. On the completion of the buildings, in March 1393, the Warden, with the rest of the society, "made their solemn entrance into the College, chanting in procession." The whole establishment consists of a Warden, seventy Scholars, ten secular Priests, who are perpetual Fellows, three Priest's Chaplains, three Clerks, sixteen Choristers, and a first and second Master. The statutes drawn up by Wykeham for the government of this College, were considered as so judicious and complete, that Henry the Sixth adopted them, with very little alteration, for his own splendid establishments at Eton and at Cambridge. He did this from a perfect knowledge of the propriety of the regulations, having himself visited Wykeham's College several times, on purpose to observe their effect on the conduct of the society. His satisfaction was evinced by several rich gifts, and a confirmation of many privileges granted to the College by his predecessors, together with some additional liberties. On the confirmation of the act of Henry the Eighth, for dissolving Colleges, Hospitals, &c. in the reign of Edward the Sixth, this foundation, with that of Eton, and those of the two Universities, was favored with a special exemption.

The buildings of this College occupy a considerable space of ground, and have in general a very venerable aspect. The entrance into the first court is beneath "a spacious gateway, the canopy of which is supported by the mutilated busts of a King on one side, and a Bishop on the other; evidently intended to represent the founder and his Royal patron, Edward the Third. In the centre of the groining, under the tower, are seen the arms of the former; and in an ornamented niche on the outside of it, we behold a large statue of his patroness, the Blessed Virgin, crowned, with a sceptre in her right hand, and her divine infant in her left. The middle tower, over the gate leading into the interior court, is ornamented with three beautiful niches, having suitable canopies and pinnacles to adorn them. In the centre niche stands the statue of the Blessed Virgin as large as life, with a book in her left hand, and her right elevated towards the figure of the angel Gabriel, which occupies the niche on the same side, and appears to

he pointing to a label inscribed with the words of the Salutation, *Ave gratia plena*. The founder himself is represented in the third niche, with his mitre, and other episcopal ornaments, invoking the prayers of his holy Patroness. The same figures are repeated in niches on the south side of this tower; whilst over the east end of the Church, a similar statue of the Blessed Virgin* with that in front of the first tower, is seen, but under a much more gorgeous canopy. Passing under the aforesaid tower into the second court, every spectator must be struck with the elegant and uniform style of the ancient buildings with which it is surrounded. In particular, the magnificent Chapel and Hall, which form the south wing of the quadrangle, being supported by bold and ornamental buttresses, and enlightened by lofty and richly-mullioned windows, bespeak the genius of Wykeham, and fill the mind with admiration and delight. Over the western extremity of the Hall, and under a similar canopy to the last-mentioned statue of the Virgin, is the figure of St. Michael, transfixing the old Dragon. A stately tower, with turrets, and pinnacles at the four corners, stands near the centre of this wing, built in the more ornamented style of the fifteenth century, it not being the work of Wykeham himself, but of Warden Thurbern."†

The entrance into the *Chapel* is by a vestibule, with a richly ornamented ceiling. The interior has a very striking effect, arising
F 2
from

* The reason why this figure so often occurs about Wykeham's College, is given by the learned Prelate who has written his life in the following passage. "Wykeham seems, even in his childhood, to have chosen the Blessed Virgin as his peculiar patroness, to have placed himself under her protection, and in a manner to have dedicated himself to her service; and probably he might ever after imagine himself indebted to her special favor, for the various successes which he was blessed with through life. This seems to have been the reason of his dedicating his two Colleges, and calling them by her name; over all the principal gates of which, he has been careful to have himself represented as her votary, in the act of adoration to the Blessed Virgin, as his and their common guardian."

† Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 118.

from the bold and lofty vaulting, which is finely ornamented with tracery, and the "dim religious light," that is diffused around from its "storied windows." These display an uncommon variety of Saints of every description, as Kings, Prelates, and Nuns; and in the great east window is represented the *Genealogy of Christ*, together with the *Crucifixion*, and the *Resurrection*; the latter of which was repaired a few years ago, by Mr. Cave, sen. of this city. The altar-piece, a painting by Le Moine, of the *Salutation*, was presented by the late head Master, Dr. Burton. In the *Ante-Chapel* are the ancient stalls, that were removed from the Chapel in the year 1681, by Dr. Nicholas, together with some curious brasses, and other memorials of his predecessors, whose remains were interred before the high altar.

Extending from the Chapel southward are the *Cloisters*, which are 132 feet square, and appear to have been built early in the fifteenth century. Here are many ancient brasses; some with inscriptions only; others representing Priests in their sacerdotal habits. In the inclosed area is an elegant building, erected as a Chantry, in the year 1430, by John Fromond, a liberal benefactor to both Wykeham's Colleges: the architecture is in the style of that age, and the interior has a strongly groined ceiling. This fabric is now a *Library*, to which use it was appropriated in the year 1627. Many of the books are select and valuable. Other curiosities are also preserved here, particularly an embalmed Ibis, from Egypt.

At the south-west corner of the second court is a flight of steps leading to the *Refectory*, or Hall, which is sixty-three feet long, thirty-three broad, and proportionably lofty. The timbers of the roof are curiously worked and arranged; and the corbels display large busts, colored, of Kings and Bishops. Between the Hall stairs and the passage into the Chapel, is another passage, leading to the play-ground and *School*: the latter is a plain brick building, and was built by subscription, in the year 1687, at the expense of 2600*l*. Over the door is a fine bronze statue of Bishop Wykeham, executed and given to the Society by the celebrated C. G. Cibber, who was related to the Bishop by marriage: this figure, by a strange perversion of taste, has been gilt and painted. The School-room is ninety feet long, and thirty-six feet wide. At the

the north end are inscribed the Rules drawn up for the conduct of the students; and which are written in Latin, in the style of the famous *Duodecim Tabulæ* of the Romans.

Many Prelates, and other eminent men, have received the rudiments of instruction at this seminary: among the latter are enumerated Sir Thomas Brown, Sir Thomas Wotten, Sir Thomas Ryves; and the Poets Otway, Philips, Young, Somerville, Pitt, Collins, and Warton.*

At

* To render this account of the College complete, it will be necessary to insert the celebrated Ode or Song of *DULCE DOMUM*, which is publicly sung by the Scholars and Choristers, aided by a band of music, previously to the summer vacation. Its origin, though it can scarcely be traced to a more distant period than the beginning of the last century, is already involved in mystery, as well as the occasion of its composition. Tradition ascribes it to a youth in a state of melancholy, wasting his life in fruitless sorrow, at his separation from his beloved home and friends. The translation annexed, was inserted in the Gentleman's Magazine for March, 1796, with the signature of J. B. It contains far more of the spirit, pathos and harmony of the original, than any other that has appeared; and even considered in itself, is a very beautiful piece of writing.

DULCE DOMUM.

*Concinamus, O sodales!
Eja! quid silemus!
Nobile canticum!
Dulce melos, domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!
Chorus.
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Dulce, dulce, dulce domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!
Appropinquet ecce! felix
Hora gaudiorum:
Post grave tedium
Advenit omnium
Meta petita laborum.
Domum, domum, &c.
Musa, libros mitte, fessa,
Mitte pensa dura,
Mitte negotium
Jam datur otium
Me mea mittito cura.
Domum, domum, &c.*

*Ridet annus, prata rident;
Nosque rideamus.
Jam repetit domum
Daulius advena:
Nosque domum repetamus.
Domum, domum, &c.
Heus! Rogere fer caballos;
Eja! nunc eamus,
Linen amabile
Matris et oscula,
Suaviter et repetamus.
Domum, domum, &c.
Concinamus ad Penates,
Vox et audiat;
Phospore! quid jubar,
Segnius emicans,
Gaudia nostra moratur?
Chorus.
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Domum, domum, dulce domum!
Dulce, dulce, dulce domum!
Dulce domum, resonemus!*

TRANSLATION.

At a short distance north-east from the College, are the ruins of the celebrated Episcopal residence, called WOLVESEY CASTLE, which was erected on the site of a more ancient Palace, by the Bishop, Henry de Blois, in the century immediately succeeding the Conquest; the exact date, as fixed in the *Annales Wintonienses*, being 1138. Part of the materials made use of in this building, were brought from the Royal Palace that had been raised by the Conqueror, on the north-west side of what is at present the Cathedral burial-ground, and which De Blois had purposely pulled down as an encroachment on the Church lands. The strength of his Castle was

TRANSLATION.

Sing a sweet melodious measure,
 Waft enchanting lays around;
 HOME, a theme replete with pleasure,
 HOME, a grateful theme, resound!

Chorus.

Home, sweet home! an ample treasure!
 Home! with ev'ry blessing crown'd!
 Home! perpetual source of pleasure!
 Home! a noble strain resound!

Lo! the joyful hour advances,
 Happy season of delight!
 Festal songs, and festal dances,
 All our tedious toils requite.

Home, sweet home! &c.

Leave, my weary'd muse, thy learning,
 Leave thy task, so hard to bear,
 Leave thy labour, ease returning,
 Leave my bosom, O! thy care.

Home, sweet home! &c.

See the year, the meadow smiling!
 Let us then a smile display;
 Rural sports, our pain beguiling,
 Rural pastimes call away.

Home, sweet home! &c.

Now

was soon evinced by the siege which it withstood against the united forces of Robert, Earl of Glocester, and David, King of Scotland; and this circumstance, combined with the Bishop's subsequent conduct, was probably the occasion of its being dismantled by Henry the Second, immediately on his coming to the Crown, together with the Bishop's other Castles, at Waltham and Merden. It appears, however, to have been repaired, and to have again become a place of considerable strength, as Bishop Ethelmar, with the "other three half-brothers of Henry the Third," fled hither from the Parliament at Oxford, to secure themselves from the vengeance of the assembled Barons. Yet the Castle was quickly taken, and probably dismantled more effectually than before, as nothing further is mentioned of it as a place of strength; though Leland describes it as "a Castelle, or Palace, welle tourid;" and it still seems to have continued to be the accustomed residence of the

F 4

Bishops

Now the swallow seeks her dwelling,
And no longer loves to roam;
Her example thus impelling,
Let us seek our native home.

Home, sweet home! &c.

Let our men and steeds assemble,
Panting for the wide champaign;
Let the ground beneath us tremble,
While we scour along the plain.

Home, sweet home! &c.

Oh! what raptures, oh! what blisses,
When we gain the lovely gate!
Mother's arms, and mother's kisses,
There our blest arrival wait.

Home, sweet home! &c.

Greet our household-gods with singing;
Lend, O Lucifer, thy ray:
Why should light, so slowly springing,
All our promis'd joys delay?

Home, sweet home! &c.

Bishops when at Winchester, till it was finally destroyed by Cromwell, in the year 1646.

The principal ruins that now remain, belonged to the Keep: "this appears to have been an imperfect parallelogram, extending about 250 feet east and west, and 160 north and south. The area, or inside of the quadrangle, was 150 feet in length, and 110 in breadth, which proves the wings of the building to have been fifty feet deep. The tower which flanks the Keep to the south-east is square, supported with three thin buttresses, faced with stone. The intermediate space, as well as the building in general on the outside, is composed of cut flints, and very hard mortar, a coat of which is spread over the whole: the north-east tower, which advances beyond its level, is rounded off at the extremity. In the centre of the north wing, which has escaped better than the other wings, is a door-way leading into a garden, which is defended by two small towers, and has a pointed arch: hence there is reason to suspect that it is of more modern construction than the rest of the building. The inside of the quadrangle, towards the court, was faced with polished free-stone, as appears from the junction of the north and east wings, which is the most entire morsel in the whole mass, and exhibits a specimen of as rich and elegant work as can be produced from the twelfth century: we there view the pellet ornament, and triangular fret, which adorn the circular arches, still remaining; together with the capitals, and a corbel bust, executed with a neatness unusual at that early period."*

Very little remains of the west and south wings, the ruins of these having probably been cleared away to make room for the offices of the new Episcopal Palace, began here by Bishop Morley, under the superintendence of Sir Christopher Wren. The Episcopal *Chapel*, at the south-west end of the quadrangle, is yet standing; but this, from its style of architecture, is probably not of an earlier age than that of Henry the Seventh. The front of the new Palace was pulled down by the present Bishop about twenty years ago. Wolvesey is stated to have derived its name from the celebrated tribute of wolves' heads, imposed on the Welsh by King Edgar; and which,
it

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 135.

it is positively asserted, was ordered to be paid here.* The precincts of the Castle were originally considerably more extensive than they appear from the present remains.

WINCHESTER CASTLE, of which scarcely any parts are now standing, was built, as already mentioned,† by William the Conqueror, and occupied the commanding spot at the south-west angle of the city, where the King's House, or Palace, erected by Charles the Second, now stands. This fortress has been the scene of many important transactions, some of which have been related.‡ In the reign of King John, it was besieged, and taken by the Dauphin of France; but in the reign of Henry the Third, it successfully resisted the attacks of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and the Barons under his command: the city, however, suffered greatly, and many of the inhabitants were ill-treated, and even murdered. In the reign of Edward the Third, the famous Wykeham was for some time Constable of this Castle, and here his first essays in military architecture are generally supposed to have been made. James the First bestowed the fee-simple of the Castle on Sir Benjamin Tichborne, and his descendants, from whom it was seized by the Parliament; and after the Castle had been dismantled by Cromwell, the estate and remains were granted to Sir William Waller, whose sister had married the real owner, Sir Richard Tichborne. Waller, or his son, sold the Chapel which had been left standing, to certain feoffees, for the purpose of converting it into a *County Hall*, to which destination it has ever since been applied. The rest of the Castle precincts were sold to the Corporation of Winchester, and from them to Charles the Second, as already stated, for the trifling consideration of five shillings! In the erection of the Palace, now called the *King's House*, by this Monarch, the ruins of the demolished Castle were chiefly consumed: the death of Charles put an end to the progress of the building, which, had it been completed according to the original design

* Trussel's MSS. ex. Archiv. Ecc. Cath.

† See page 35.

‡ See pages 38, 40, and 45.

design given for it by Sir Christopher Wren, would have been the most stately edifice of the kind in England.*

“The whole area of the Castle,” observes Mr. Milner, “was about 850 feet in length, north and south; and 250 in breadth, east and west: it became, however, much narrower, at the north extremity, where a wall, that followed the slope of the ditch, united it with the west gate. Of the above-mentioned space, the Keep, or Donjon, which was at the same time the strong part of the fortress, and the chief habitable part of it, occupied a square of about 100 feet, being situated on the summit at the south end, and communicating with the fortifications of the city, by a similar wall to that described above. The said Keep was flanked with a tower at each corner; and a fifth tower stood over the entrance of it fronting the north: but the Castle gate, leading into the fortifications at large, looked to the west. Directly opposite to this, on the other side of the ditch, was a barbican, or turret, in the nature of an out-post. The aforesaid gate consisted of a strong double tower; besides which, there were three other towers, at convenient distances to strengthen the north part of the fortifications, as the five towers of the Keep protected the south part of it. The original form of all these towers was square, and the materials of them was flint, or other coarse stone, and a very fine kind of mortar.” It has, however, been incontestibly proved, from some late discoveries, “that the two towers of the Keep, which were principally in sight of the city, namely, those to the north-east, and to the south-east, had been altered into a circular, or rather into an oval form, according to a fashion that prevailed in succeeding ages to those of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The inside of the north-east tower, which is still visible, presents an oval chamber, truncated where it joins the body of the Keep, twenty-four feet in length, and twelve in breadth. The walls were nine feet thick, being faced and lined with polished free-stone :

* In the first volume of Milner’s Winchester is a fine engraving of this building, from a colored drawing, by the architect himself; together with two views of the Castle in its ancient state.

free-stone: it was neatly vaulted; the brackets, to the number of six, that supported it, and part of the springers, which are highly finished, still remaining. The stone steps, leading into a kind of cellar beneath, which was probably one of the Castle dungeons, are also still to be seen. The north-west tower seems to have been the most considerable in extent, and had a terrace adjoining to it in the inside. The keep had an extensive ballium, or glacis, fortified with walls and turrets, encompassing it on the west and south sides. The ditch varied in its depth and breadth; the level of the Keep, where the ground was highest, must have been at least 100 feet deep, and as many broad; for it is certain that all the military ditches of the Castle, as well as those of the city, were dug to such a depth, as to admit the water of the river to flow freely through them.”*

The *Chapel*, or, more properly, from its modern appropriation, the *County Hall*, was originally dedicated to St. Stephen, and is supposed, from its style and materials, to have been built about the time of the Monarch of that name. It is 110 feet in length, and consists of a nave and side aisles; but the appearance of the interior has been entirely changed, through the alterations that have been made in it for the purposes of public business. At the east end is suspended the famous curiosity called *Arthur's Round Table*, which tradition has attributed to King Arthur; but modern inquiry, with more accuracy, to King Stephen, who appears to have introduced the use of the Round Table into this Island, to prevent disputes for precedence among the chivalrous Knights of his age. It consists of stout oaken planks, painted with the figure of the British Arthur, and the names of his twenty-four Knights, as collected from the romances of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries: the costume and characters are of the time of Henry the Eighth, when it was first painted; in the centre is a rose. Its diameter is eighteen feet:
in

* History of Winchester, Vol. II. p. 169, 171. Mr. Milner professes to have derived his ideas of this Castle from an attentive consideration of its ruins, ditches, and situation; from discoveries made on the spot by digging; from the hints that occur in ancient writers; and from the slight sketch of it in Speed's Chorography.

in several places it has been perforated by bullets, supposed by Cromwell's soldiers. The traditions connected with it, are thus noticed in one of Warton's beautiful sonnets :

Where Venta's Norman Castle still uprears
 Its rafter'd Hall, that o'er the grassy foss,
 And scatter'd flinty fragments clad in moss,
 On yonder steep, in naked state appears,
 High-hung, remains the pride of warlike years,
Old Arthur's Board; on the capacious round
 Some British pen has sketch'd the names renown'd,
 In marks obscure, of his immortal peers.
 Though join'd with magic skill, with many a rhyme,
 The Druid frame, unhonour'd, falls a prey
 To the slow vengeance of the wizard Time,
 And fade the British characters away :—
 Yet Spenser's page, that chants in verse sublime,
 Those Chiefs, shall live unconscious of decay.

The ancient precincts of the Castle extended nearly to the *West Gate*, which is the only one of the original entrances now remaining of the kind into this city; the North, East, and South Gates, having been demolished by the Commissioners of the Pavement, appointed under an act passed in the year 1770. This Gate has itself been much altered: part of it is supposed to be of the same age as the City Walls; but the machiolation, the grooves for the portcullis, the busts, the shields inscribed in quatrefoils, and, in general, the whole western facing, display workmanship of much later date. Adjoining to the Gate, on the outside, are some remains of an ancient Chapel, called St. Mary in the Ditch. The ruins of the Wall, extending on the north side, are fringed with shrubs and ash trees. At a little distance from the gate are the remains of a turret, which, with another of the same description, “defended the intermediate space of the wall, as far as what is called the Hermit's Tower, at the northern extremity.” The north Wall of the city, consisting chiefly of flints, and strong cement, retains its full height in some places, and is embattled, having copings of free-stone: the ruins of several turrets on this side may also be traced.

traced. On the east side, the Wall "had the main arm of the river Itchin for its military foss;" and this, as appears from a charter granted by King Edmund to his sister Edburga, and the Abbey of St. Mary, was then (before 960) navigable in this part. From the East Gate southward, the Wall was extended beyond its original bounds, by the founder of Wolvesey Castle, so as to form an obtuse angle; and being strongly fortified with towers, became the outwork of that fortress. On the south side, the entrance into the city was by a drawbridge. On the south-west part, the ancient tract of the Wall was extended by the fortifications of the Royal Castle, in the same manner as on the Wolvesey side by those of the Episcopal Castle. The original form of the City, as bounded by the Walls, is that of the Roman camps in general, viz. a parallelogram, with the angles rounded off; and the principal parts of Winchester are still included within the space described by this figure.

In the High Street, and nearly in the centre of the city, but partly obscured by the situation of some contiguous buildings, stands the CITY CROSS, an elegant specimen of the style of the age in which it was built, that of Henry the Sixth. It consists of three stories, adorned with open arches, niches, and pinnacles, surmounted with small crosses. The remains of the cross at the top still crowns the ornamented shaft, which rises from the base; and under one of the canopied niches, on the second story, is a statue generally said to represent St. John the Evangelist; but, from its wanting the appropriate symbols of that Saint, and from its "bearing a palm branch, the sure token of a martyr," Mr. Milner, with more probability, refers it either to St. Laurence, or St. Amphibalus: to the first of whom the Church near which it stands was dedicated; and the latter of whom was once the Patron Saint of the Cathedral. This structure was erected by a *Fraternity of the Holy Cross*, an order which is said to have been instituted by Henry the Sixth: its preservation has been owing to the spirit of the inhabitants, who rose in its defence, and drove away the workmen employed to take it down about the year 1770, under an order of the Commissioners of Pavement, by whom it is said to have been clandestinely sold to ornament

ornament the grounds of a neighbouring gentleman. The height of this Cross is forty-three feet.

The ecclesiastical buildings in this city, and its suburbs, were formerly extremely numerous; the Churches and Chapels alone, amounting to upwards of ninety; and several having Colleges and Monasteries attached to them. Scarcely twelve of them now remain; the others having been destroyed by the effects of war, or otherwise. The Church dedicated to *St. Laurence*, near the City Cross, and which can hardly be seen for the buildings that surround it, is considered as the mother Church; "hence the Bishop takes possession of his diocese, by making a solemn entry into this little edifice." The principal parochial Church is that dedicated to *St. Maurice*, which was formerly collegiate: the porch, though much obscured, exhibits specimens of Saxon workmanship.

The *Town-Hall*, or, more properly, the *Hall of the Guild of Merchants of Winchester*, was rebuilt in the year 1713, on the site of a more ancient Hall, erected in place of a former one recorded to have been burnt down in 1112. Here the city archives, the original Winchester Bushel given by King Edgar, with other measures, both for quantity and length, fixed as standards by succeeding Princes, and various curious memorials of antiquity, are still preserved. In front is a good statue of Queen Anne, presented by George Brydges, Esq. who was a representative of the city in seven successive parliaments. The *Market-House* is a neat building, erected in 1772, for the sale of butter, eggs, poultry, &c. Before this edifice was completed, the above articles were exposed for sale round the City Cross, and in the *Pent-House*, an ancient piazza, extending from the Cross, on the south side of the High Street.

Among the other public buildings that require notice, is the ancient structure on the north side of the High Street called *St. John's House*, originally founded as an Hospital, and that apparently so early as the tenth century, as appears by the following passage from Leland's Itinerary: "Hard by is a faire Hospitale of St. John, wher pore syke people be kept: ther is yn the Chapelle an ymage of St. Brinstane, sunntyme Bishop of Wynchestre; and I have redde that St. Brinstane founded an Hospitale yn Winchester." St.

Brinstan

Brinstan died in the year 934; he was particularly remarkable for his charity to the poor. This Hospital is thought to have afterwards become the property of the Knights Templars, or to have fallen under their administration, as the same year in which that order was suppressed, a rich citizen and magistrate of Winchester, obtained permission of the King, Edward the Second, to re-found it "for the sole relief of sick and lame soldiers, poor pilgrims, and necessitated way-faring men, to have their lodging and diet gratis there, for one night, or longer, as their inability to travel might require." Sufficient endowments were at the same time given for its maintenance, and the management vested in the Corporation, who appear, even as early as this period, to have used it as a Public Hall. At the Dissolution, in the time of Henry the Eighth, the revenues of this institution were, with all the moveable property, confiscated to the King's use; but the Corporation were suffered to retain the bare walls for civil purposes. In 1554, it once more became a charitable foundation, being endowed for the support of six poor widows, by Richard Lamb, Esq. each of these has a separate apartment on the north side of the main building. The principal chamber, or hall, which is sixty-two feet in length, thirty-eight broad, and twenty-eight high, has been fitted up in an elegant style, chiefly by a donation of the late COLONEL BRYDGES, of Avington, who left 800*l.* for the purpose. The portrait of this gentleman, and a very fine whole length of CHARLES THE SECOND, in his robes of state, by Sir Peter Lely, presented by the Monarch himself to the Corporation, are among the decorations of this apartment; and here the public feasts, music-meetings, and assemblies, are held. In an adjoining room, called the Council Chamber, are suspended the *City Tables*, which display a brief chronological arrangement of the most important transactions relating to this city. The ancient Chapel of the Hospital is now used as a *Free School*.

The celebrated Monastery founded by the great Alfred in this City, called the *Newen Mynstre*,* and afterwards HYDE ABBEY, originally occupied nearly the whole space between the Cathedral

on

* See page 28.

on the north, and the High Street. Alfred dying soon after the commencement of the work, it was completed by his son, Edward the Confessor, and placed under the direction of Alfred's esteemed friend, St. Grimbald, who was prevailed on to establish it for canons regular. These were expelled by Bishop Ethelwold, in the year 963,* and their place supplied by Benedictine monks. Alwyn, the eighth Abbot from St. Grimbald, was uncle to the unfortunate King Harold, and, with twelve of his monks, assisted that Sovereign in the field at the Battle of Hastings, where he was himself slain, together with all his companions. "This behaviour of the Abbot so enraged the Conqueror, that he treated the New Minster with more than his usual tyranny; seizing upon all its estates, and keeping the Abbey itself in his hands for a long time, without allowing a new Abbot to be chosen." Three years afterwards, his anger being appeased, he permitted the monks to elect a superior, restored some of the Abbey lands, and gave other possessions in exchange for the remainder.

The next remarkable event in the history of this foundation, occurred in the reign of Henry the First, at which time its situation had become exceedingly unwholesome, through the stagnation of a stream of water, which had been brought from the river through the heart of the city, to supply the ditches which had been dug round the Castle erected by the Conqueror. This inconveniency, combined with another, that had been endured even from the building of the Abbey, namely, the interruption that frequently arose from the contiguity of the Abbey Church to the Cathedral, by which the voices and organs of the two choirs were confusedly intermingled, gave origin to a plan for rebuilding the Abbey at a greater distance. The design being approved equally by the King and Bishop, and by the inmates of both Monasteries, the spot called Hyde Meadow, just without the north wall of the city, was chosen for the site of the new edifice. Here a magnificent Church and Monastery were erected, chiefly at the expense of the King; and in the year 1110, the monks removed to their new abode, carrying

* Tanner's Notitia.

ing with them not only the relics of the Saints Grimbald and Judocus, the latter of which had been brought from Picardy, but also the remains of the illustrious personages that had been buried in their old Church, and which were now re-interred at Hyde. Among the remains thus removed, were those of Alfred, his Queen Alswitha, and his sons Ethelward and Edward the Elder; Alfred, Elfleda, and Ethelhilda, children of Edward the Elder; and King Edwy.

- In the succeeding reign, that of the Usurper Stephen, Hyde Abbey, as before stated,* was burnt to the ground, in the conflagration occasioned by the fire-balls that were thrown on the buildings in the possession of the forces of Matilda, from the Bishop's Castle at Wolvesey. This destructive measure has been attributed to the advice of the Bishop himself, but unjustly; though it is certain that a canonical process was instituted against him, for seizing, and converting to his own use, the gold and silver of a great cross, enriched with precious stones, which had been given to the Abbey by Canute, and was melted in the flames. In the reign of Henry the Second, the buildings were restored with increased magnificence; and the possessions of the Abbey having become very great, from the various grants it had received from many Royal and noble benefactors, its Abbot was invested with the privilege of sitting in Parliament. On its surrender to the commissioners of Henry the Eighth, in April, 1538, its annual revenues were, according to Dugdale, computed at 865l. 18s. 0¼d. The Church, and principal offices of the Monastery, were demolished so soon afterwards, that Leland speaks of the Abbey, in the past tense, as having "stoode in this suburbe." Even the tombs of the illustrious dead were broken into; for we are assured by the same author, that "two little tables of lead, inscribed with the names of Alfred, and his son Edward, were found in the monument containing their remains." Very little of the Monastic buildings are now standing: the principal remain is the small and mutilated Parish-Church of St. Bartholomew, the east end of which is in ruins; at the west

* See page 39.

end is a square heavy tower. "This Church never formed part of the Abbey itself; but, like the Parish-Church of St. Swithin, with respect to the Cathedral, was intended for the benefit of the servants, and other lay persons belonging to the Monastery."* Some ruinous out-houses, and parts of a large barn, comprise the remainder of the ruins. On the exact site of the Church a new *Bridewell* was erected a few years ago, according to the plan of the benevolent Howard. In digging the foundations, many stone coffins, with chalices, patins, rings, &c. were met with; together with busts, capitals of columns, and other fragments of ornamental sculpture. The most interesting curiosity, however, that has been found among the remains of this Abbey, is the stone inscribed ALFRED REX. DCCCLXXXI, in Saxon characters: this was discovered between forty and fifty years ago, and is now in the possession of H. Howard, Esq. of Corby Castle, Cumberland.

Another of the religious establishments of this city, of which it is requisite to detail some particulars, was the *Munna Dynstre*, or ABBEY OF ST. MARY, which had been founded by Alswitha, Alfred's Queen, and afterwards became the place of her retirement on the demise of her Royal consort. Here also Edburga, a daughter of Edward the Elder, passed her devout life, and became Abbess. In the time of King Edgar, additional endowments were bestowed on this foundation by Bishop Ethelwold, who, in conjunction with his friend, the celebrated St. Dunstan, increased the strictness of its discipline according to the new regulations prescribed for the observance of Benedictines. Many West Saxon females, of Royal and noble parentage, were admitted into this community; and here Matilda, the celebrated Queen of Henry the First, and direct descendant from Edmund Ironside, received her education. The usurpation of Stephen proved the destruction of the first Abbey; for this also, like the New Minstre, was burnt by the throwing of fire-balls from Wolvesey. In the next reign, the buildings were re-instated, towards the expense of which Henry the Second is thought to have been a considerable benefactor.

On

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 227.

On the Dissolution of the lesser Monasteries, this Abbey, whose annual revenues only amounted to 179l. 7s. 2d. would have fallen in the common wreck, if its then Abbess, Dame Elizabeth Shelley, had not averted the storm, by the sacrifice of the manors of Allcanning and Archefount, in Wiltshire, which were alienated in favor of Lord Edward Seymour, and Lady Anne, his wife; the latter of whom, according to the surmise of Dugdale, the rapacious Henry had "some private reason to oblige." The Abbey continued to flourish about four years longer, when, at the final Dissolution, all its possessions were swept away; the Abbess, and eight of her nuns, having small annuities granted them; and the rest of the community being turned out without any provision. Scarcely any vestige of the conventual buildings can now be traced, excepting in a large modern mansion, in the construction of which the materials were used; and in the name of *Abbey*, by which the whole extent of its ancient inclosure is still called.

An extensive *County Gaol*, from the designs, and under the direction of the architect, Mr. Money Penny, is now building in this city. The internal arrangement is agreeable to the plan of the celebrated Howard; and has for its objects, the health, cleanliness, and morals, of the prisoners.

Here are several Meeting-Houses for Dissenters of different denominations; the principal of which is the Roman Catholic *Chapel*, dedicated to *St. Peter*, and standing in the Street of that name. This structure was rebuilt on the foundations of a more ancient Chapel, in the year 1792. The designs from which it was constructed, were principally executed by Mr. Carter: the general idea was to give a modern imitation of the English, or Pointed style, with its corresponding decorations in the middle ages; and this intention was completed as far as the limited state of the finances appropriated for the purpose would admit. The building itself is coated with stucco, resembling free-stone; and has "mullioned windows, shelving buttresses, a parapet, with open quatrefoils, and crocketed pinnacles, terminating in gilt crosses." The windows are twelve feet high, and four feet, six inches broad: the canopies over these rise from corbel heads of

Bishops and Sovereigns, with their respective emblems; and the frieze is charged with the emblems and initials of St. Peter. A neat vaulted porch leads into the interior, which is fitted up in imitation of older buildings; and many of the ornaments have a particular connection with the history of Winchester; others have been modelled from the antiquities that remain in it. The altarpiece was painted from a copy of Raphael's famous picture of the *Transfiguration*, by Mr. Cave, sen. of this city. The windows are glazed with ground glass, richly painted with quatrefoils, and cross patés, and further adorned with figures of the most celebrated Saints and Kings that have flourished in Winchester. Opposite the windows, which are confined to the north side, are paintings in chiaro oscuro, from Scripture History. At the entrance of the walk leading to this Chapel, is a curious *Norman Portal*, that was removed hither from the Church of St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital, which stood on a hill to the north of the city, and was pulled down a few years ago. The mouldings of the arch are plain, and undercut; they rise from two columns on each side, having bold capitals and bases. St. Mary's Hospital is supposed to have been founded by Bishop Tocklyve, in the twelfth century.

Many privileges have, at various times, been granted to the inhabitants of this city, by different Sovereigns. Its Chief Magistrate, as already stated,* had the title of Mayor conferred on him, by Henry the Second, in 1184, some years before that appellation was known even in the capital itself. The first charter of incorporation was granted by King John; but the charter by which the city is now governed, was given by Queen Elizabeth; and, as declared in the preamble, "in consideration of the city of Winchester having been most famous for the celebration of the natiivities, coronations, sepulchres, and for the preservation of other famous monuments of the Queen's progenitors." By this charter the government is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, six Aldermen, a Town-Clerk, two Coroners, two Constables, and a Council of twenty-four of the "better, discreeter, and more honest sort," of inhabitants.

* See page 41.

inhabitants. The Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, are Justices of Peace. The first return from this city to Parliament, was in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The right of election is vested in the Corporation.

Winchester has very little trade, but what immediately arises from its advantageous situation, in the very centre of the county; though an ancient wool-combing manufactory still exists in it; and of late years, the silk manufacture has been introduced. All the public business of Hampshire is, however, transacted here; "and there is never an interval of many weeks, without a great conflux of strangers on that account, to the great emolument of the inhabitants: the same circumstance accounts for the number of gentlemen of the law who live here. Its Cathedral, and its College, insure to it the residence also of a considerable number of superior clergy, with their families. The upper class of inhabitants, being well educated, and consisting of fixed residents, who are known to each other, live in the most friendly and social intercourse; and the lower rank are, in general, better taught, and more civil, than persons in the same situation in most other places. The provisions which the neighbouring country produces, are of the very best quality; the coveys also abound with game, and the rivers teem with trout, and other fish."* Its situation, in the vicinity of the sea, with which there is a direct communication by a navigable canal, at least as ancient as the reign of King John, is also the means of its obtaining the heavy commodities and merchandise of other counties, at a reasonable rate. When in the height of its prosperity, and possessing the benefit of the wool-staple, its wealth was greatly increased by the multitudes that flocked to its different fairs; the principal of which were held on the neighbouring hills of St. Giles, and St. Mary Magdalen.

ST. GILES'S FAIR was at one period by far the greatest in England. It was originally held for *one day* only, in virtue of a grant from William the Conqueror to Bishop Walkelin, his cousin. "William Rufus extended it to three days; Henry the First

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 449, 450.

to eight; Stephen to fourteen; and Henry the Second to sixteen days. During the said time of the fair, the shops were shut up, and no business was allowed to be transacted throughout the whole city, in Southampton, or, in short, within the distance of seven leagues from the hill in every direction. On the eve preceding the festival of St. Giles, (September the tenth, N. S.) when the fair began, the Mayor of the city gave up the keys of the four city gates, and with them his authority, to a temporary Magistrate appointed by the Bishop, and did not resume the same until the fair was concluded. In the mean time, collectors were appointed at Southampton, and Redbridge, and on all the roads leading to the city, to exact the appointed duties upon all merchandise that was brought here for sale. This fair was in the highest repute of any throughout the Kingdom; merchants resorted to it not only from the most remote parts within land, but also from places beyond the sea. It formed a kind of temporary city, which was entirely mercantile; consisting of whole streets appropriated to the sale of particular commodities, and distinguished by their several names; as the Drapery, the Pottery, the Spicery, the Stannery, &c. At length, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, this celebrated mart was observed to be on the decline; the stand appointed for those who brought certain articles for sale from Cornwall, not being occupied. Since that period, various causes, and, among others, the decay of the city itself, have gradually reduced this fair to its present insignificance.* *St. Mary Magdalen's Fair* is now the greatest, and a vast quantity of money is here annually circulated on a single day.

Various improvements in the general appearance of this city have been made since the year 1770, when the act for paving, cleansing, and repairing it, was passed. The buildings are chiefly disposed in parallel streets, branching off at right angles from the

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* Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 200. We cannot conclude the description of this city, without acknowledging the very material assistance we have derived from that work; which, considered only in respect to its immediate relation to the History and Antiquities of Winchester, forms a very honorable monument of the talents and industry of its reverend author.

High Street, which runs through the centre. The number of houses which compose the city and suburbs, omitting those of the parish of St. Maurice, is stated, in the returns under the Population Act, at 847; the number of inhabitants, including the inmates of the College, at 6171: if to these are added 2000 for the number of soldiers that are generally in the Barracks, or King's House, the total of the population will amount to 8171. For the recreation of the superior classes, a neat *Theatre* has been recently built: additional amusement is derived from the *Race-Ground*, which lies between three and four miles to the north of the city. A *County Hospital*, or *Infirmery*, was established at Winchester as early as the year 1736, and has been the means of relieving a great number of people. The present building consists of a centre, and two wings: the plan on which it is managed, is highly judicious and honorable,

About three miles north-east from Winchester, is AVINGTON, anciently *Abyngton*, a seat and manor of Earl Temple, eldest son of the Marquis of Buckingham, who obtained it by marriage with the Lady Anna Eliza Brydges, only daughter and heiress of James, last Duke of Chandos, on whose death, in 1789, that title became extinct. The manor was originally Royal demesne, and was given, by King Edgar, to the Monastery of St. Swithun, at Winchester, in the year 961; and continued in the possession of that house till the Dissolution, when it became the property of the Clerks of Micheldever, in this county, in whom it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, and then passed to the *Bruges*, or *Brydges*. This family, a branch of a very noble one of the same name on the Continent, was settled at Brugge Castle, in Shropshire, at the time of the Conquest. Sir Thomas Brugge married Alice, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Berkeley, by Alice, his wife, daughter of Thomas, Lord Chandos, sister and heiress of Sir John Chandos, Lord Chandos, one of the original Knights of the Castle; and of whom our History speaks so highly for his conduct in the French wars, under Edward the Third. From this marriage arose the connection between the families of Bruges and Chandos; the united honors of which have descended, in an uninterrupted line, to the present time.

In the year 1554, Sir John Bruges, or Brydges, was created, by Queen Mary, Baron Chandos, of Sudeley Castle, in Gloucestershire; and in 1714, the Honorable James Brydges, ninth Lord Chandos, was created Marquis and Earl of Caernarvon, and Duke of Chandos. James, his grandson, third and last Duke of Chandos,* acquired the house and property of Avington, on the death of Mrs. Brydges, relict of George Brydges, Esq. son of George Rodney Brydges, Esq. fourth son of Sir Thomas Brydges, in the county of Somerset, who married Anna Maria Brudenell, the infamous and notorious Countess of Shrewsbury, whose former husband, Francis, Earl of Shrewsbury, died in consequence of a wound he received in a duel with George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham,† during the fighting of which, the Countess is reported to have held the horse of her gallant, disguised as a page. During her residence at Avington, Charles the Second was frequently her guest; and hence Avington became the scene of the licentious pleasures of that profligate Monarch, at the time he was meditating to establish his Royal residence in the Palace at Winchester. Before the old house was dismantled, but a very short time before the unexpected death of the late Duke of Chandos, Nell Gwynn's Dressing-Room was still shown. The old Green-House was the Banqueting-Room in which Charles was entertained.

The present Mansion is mostly of brick; and though not yet completed, has been greatly improved since it came into the possession of Earl Temple; it having been previously dismantled, by the late Duke, for the purpose of adding two wings; but on the sudden

* By the maternal line, the Blood Royal of England flows in the veins of the descendants of this family; the mother of the late Duke of Chandos, and of Lady Caroline Leigh, relict of James Leigh, Esq. of Addlestrop, in Gloucestershire, being the first wife of Henry, second Duke of Chandos, and one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Lord Bruce, afterwards Earl of Ailesbury, who descended through heiresses of the great houses of Grey, Duke of Suffolk, Seymour, and Saville, from Mary, Queen Dowager of France, and daughter of Henry the Seventh.

† See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 388.

sudden death of that nobleman, it was left entirely unfinished. It is situated in a well-planted and secluded valley, nearly environed with high downs, which, from their bare and open state, form a singular, though not unpleasing contrast with the scenery immediately contiguous to the Mansion. Several of the apartments are fitted up with great elegance, and are highly enriched by a choice collection of paintings, entirely of his Lordship's forming; and many of which have been purchased, by him, from the Orleans and Besborough collections. In the *Saloon* are the following:

A large picture, by Rembrandt; subject generally considered as unknown; but in a mezzotinto print, engraved from it by J. Ward, it is called "*The Centurion Cornelius*," from the tenth Chapter of the Acts. This painting is allowed to be one of the best ever executed by Rembrandt, who painted it for the ancestors of a Merchant's family in Amsterdam, from which it was purchased by an English collector, on the entry of the French into Holland during the last war. With the assistance of two young men, sons of the family, the collector embarked it on board a fishing-boat, and escaped with it in the night of the day on which the French troops entered the above city: he afterwards sold it to Earl Temple,

Tobias's Wedding Night; Le Soeur: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Baptism of the Eunuch; Cuyt: a beautiful, rich, and highly-finished picture.

Head of Christ; Carlo Dolci: very fine.

Shipping and Buildings; Claude de Lorraine: this picture is better known by the appellation of the *Northington Claude*, it having belonged to that nobleman's collection.

Baptism of Christ; Albano: a beautiful picture, from the Orleans collection.

Exposure of Moses; Nich. Poussin: also from the Orleans collection. This is a very fine painting, and has been engraved.

Two small landscapes; Sal. Rosa.

A Storm and Shipwreck; Vernet.

Two landscapes; Ruysdael.

AIR; one of the set of elements painted by Luca Gordiano: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Head of a Sybil; Dominichino: very fine: from the Orleans collection.

Head of an Old Woman; Denner: extremely curious.

RAPHAEL; by himself: from Lord Besborough's collection.

Head of a Woman; Rubens: this was a favorite picture of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who always hung it up as a study, and at whose sale it was purchased by the late Sir William Hamilton.

In the *Dining-Room* is a Head of SIR JOHN BRUGES, first Lord Chandos; by Hans Holbein.

Venus and Mercury teaching Cupid to read; Corregio.

Our Saviour and the Virgin; Guido. These two pictures were given, by the Duke of Buckingham, to Lady Shrewsbury: the Corregio is particularly fine.

Our Saviour, the Virgin, and St. Joseph; Albert Durer.

Two Landscapes; Van Goyen.

View of Caernarvon Castle; Wilson.

A Landscape; Louthembourg.

View of the Royal Naval Review, in 1775; Serres: presented, by his Majesty, to the late Duke of Chandos.

ERASMUS; Holbein.

The Angel departing from Tobit and his family; Rembrandt: from the collection of Nathaniel Hone, Esq. This picture was brought into England by John Blackwood, Esq. a distinguished connoisseur and collector, and who was the first person that introduced the pictures of Murillio and Cuyt to English patronage.

In front of the house is a piece of water, that was formed from a transparent stream that flows through the valley, by the late Duke of Chandos. The Park, which is about three miles in circumference, was also made by him, and was not finished till the year 1785: it incloses, however, some fine old timber, and the ground is beautifully diversified.

About one mile west from Winchester, on the banks of the river Itchin, is the venerable and interesting HOSPITAL of ST. CROSS; an institution that has retained more of its original character,

racter, than any other similar remnant of ancient piety and charity in this Island. "The lofty tower, with the grated door, and Porter's Lodge beneath it; the retired Ambulatory; the separate cells; the common Refectory; the venerable Church; the black flowing dress, and the silver cross, worn by the members; the conventual appellation of *brother*, with which they salute each other; in short, the silence, the order, and the neatness, that here reign, seem to recall the idea of a Monastery to those who have seen one, and will give no imperfect idea of such an establishment to those who have not had that advantage."*

"This, however, never was a Monastery, but only an Hospital for the support of ancient and infirm men, living together in a regular and devout manner." The original founder was the Bishop Henry de Blois, who instituted it, between the years 1132 and 1136, for the maintenance and residence of thirteen poor men; and the relief of 100 others, the most indigent that could be found in the city, but of good characters; each of whom was ordered to be provided daily with a loaf of bread, three quarts of small beer, and two messes for his dinner, in a hall appointed for the purpose, and called *Hundred-Mennes Hall*, from this circumstance. Here was also an endowment for a Master, a Steward, four Chaplains, thirteen Clerks, and seven Choristers.

Before the time of Bishop Wykeham, who was appointed to the See of Winchester in 1366, the revenues of this Hospital had been appropriated to purposes very different from the intentions of the founder; and that Prelate, being determined to reform the existing abuses, at length succeeded, after a tedious litigation, both in the spiritual and temporal courts. He then re-established it on a secure and well-ordered foundation; the propriety and good effects of which were so apparent, that his successor, Cardinal Beaufort, being determined to engage in some permanent charity, resolved rather to enlarge this institution, than to found a new one. He therefore endowed it for the additional support of two Priests, and thirty-five poor men, who were to become residents; and three
Hospital

Hospital Nuns, who were to attend upon the sick brethren: he also caused a considerable portion of the Hospital to be rebuilt.

“The present establishment of St. Cross is but the wreck of its two ancient institutions; it having been severely fleeced, though not quite destroyed, like so many other Hospitals, at the Reformation. Instead of seventy residents, as well clergy as laity, who were here entirely supported, besides 100 out-members, who daily received their meat and drink, the charity consists at present but of ten residing brethren, and three out-pensioners, exclusive of one Chaplain, and the Master. It is true, however, that certain doles of bread continue to be distributed to the poor of the neighbourhood; and what is, perhaps, the only vestige left in the kingdom, of the simplicity and hospitality of ancient times, the Porter is daily furnished with a certain quantity of good bread and beer, of which every traveller, or other person whosoever, that knocks at the Lodge, and calls for relief, is entitled to partake gratuitously.”* Many of the Masters of this Hospital have been Prelates of considerable learning.

The buildings of this Hospital composed two courts; but the south side of the interior quadrangle has been lately pulled down. On the east side of the first court is the *Hundred-Pennes-Hall*, which is about forty feet long, and is now converted into a brew-house: on the west is a range of offices; and on the south, with portions of other buildings, the lofty and handsome tower gateway, erected by Cardinal Beaufort, whose statue, in his Cardinal's habit, is represented kneeling in an elegant niche in the upper part: two other niches, of the same form, but deprived of their statues, appear also on the same level. “In the cornice over the gates of this tower, we behold the Cardinal's hat displayed, together with the busts of his father, John of Gaunt; of his Royal nephews, Henry the Fourth, and Henry the Fifth; and of his predecessor, Wykeham: in the spandrels, on each side, are the founder's arms. The centre boss in the groining of the gateway, is carved into a curious cross, composed

* Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 144.

posed of leaves, and surrounded with a crown of thorns: on the left is the door of the Porter's Lodge."^{*}

On entering the second court, the first object that attracts attention, is the ancient and interesting *Church of St. Cross*, which extends a considerable way into the court, and destroys its regularity on the east side. This edifice is built in the Cathedral form, with a nave and transept, and a low and massive tower rising from the intersection: the whole length of the Church is 150 feet; the length of the transept is 120 feet. The architecture of this structure is singularly curious, and particularly deserving the attention of the antiquary, as it appears to throw light on the progress, if not on the origin, of the Pointed, or English style. Mr. Milner considers the entire fabric as the work of Bishop de Blois, with the exception "of the front and upper story of the west end, which are of a later date, and seem to have been altered to their present form about the time of Wykeham. The vaulting of this part was evidently made by the second founder, Beaufort, whose arms, together with those of Wykeham, and of the Hospital, are seen on the centre orbs of it: that at the east end, by the Saxon ornaments with which it is charged, bespeaks the workmanship of the first founder, De Blois."[†]

The building before us, Mr. Milner further observes, "seems to be a collection of architectural essays, with respect to the disposition and form, both of the essential parts, and of the subordinate ornaments. Here we find the ponderous Saxon pillar, of the same dimensions in its circumference as in its length, which, however, supports an incipient pointed arch. The windows and arches are some of them short, with semicircular heads; and some of them immoderately long, and terminating like a lance: others are of the horse-shoe form, of which the entry into the north porch is the most curious specimen: in one place, (on the east side of the south transept,) we have a curious triangular arch. The capitals and bases of the columns alternately vary in their form, as
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^{*} Milner's Winchester, Vol. II. p. 146.

[†] History of Winchester, Vol. II. pages 149 and 152.

well as in their ornaments: the same circumstance is observable in the ribs of the arches, especially in the north and south aisles, some of them being plain, others profusely embellished, and in different styles, even within the same arch. Here we view almost every kind of Saxon and Norman ornament, the chevron, the billet, the hatched, the pellet, the fret, the indented, the nebulé, and the wavey, all superbly executed.”*

The most attracting point of view, however, in which this structure is regarded by the above antiquary, is that of considering it as the first regular step towards the origin of the *Pointed*, or *English* style of architecture, which has so long, and so undeservedly, been calumniated under the barbarous appellation of Gothic. The specimens referred to by Mr. Milner in support of this hypothesis, both in his *History of Winchester*, and in his more elaborate illustration, inserted in the “*Essays on Gothic Architecture*,” are indeed very happily chosen; and though they may not entirely warrant the supposition, that “the intersecting of two circular arches in the Church of St. Cross, produced Salisbury Steeple,” yet they clearly mark the gradation by which the Saxon and Norman styles of architecture were abandoned, for the more enriched and beautiful order that has conferred so much celebrity on the ecclesiastical architects of this country.

It has already been observed, that the west end, and the vaulting of the nave, are of later date than the other portions of this fabric; but the lower part is allowed to be the work of De Blois. This consists of massive Norman columns, with capitals and bases in the same style, supporting incipient pointed arches, but without ornament. In the south transept are two highly-pointed arches, ornamented with the zig-zag moulding, and rising from Norman pilasters, with varied capitals. The next variation appears in the chancel, where the walls are embellished with intersecting circular arches, with zig-zag and other mouldings, supported by Norman pilasters, richly ornamented. The intersections of these arches are pierced through the whole thickness of the wall, and constitute the

* *History of Winchester*, Vol. II. p. 149.

the windows, which are twenty in number, and are, of course, all pointed. This being the east end, is admitted to have been the first part of the Church that was finished, and in consequence its date can hardly be later than 1135.

The next gradation of style appears in the *Portal* of the west front, which is an elegant specimen of the time of King John, or early part of the reign of Henry the Third. "It consists of a double arch, with trefoil heads, and an open quatrefoil in the centre above them, forming altogether one elegant pointed arch, which rests upon four slender columns, with neat plain capitals and bases. The arched moulding that rests upon the inward pillars, consisting of the cup of a flower inverted, in open carved work, is an appropriate ornament of the pointed order, being different from every kind of Saxon moulding. We have here also, one of the first specimens of a canopy over a pointed arch, which afterwards became so important a member in this style of architecture: the present canopy is a plain weather moulding, of the same angle as the arch itself, and rests on two flowers, by way of corbels, instead of human heads; though an ornament of the latter kind is seen in the open space, just above the centre column. The great west window, above the portal, is divided by simple mullions into five principal lights; the wheel above, and other intermediate spaces, being filled with ornamental trefoils. This appears to be one of the earliest specimens of a great west window, before transoms, and ramified mullions, were introduced; and therefore the western end of the Church must have been altered, to receive this and the door beneath it, about the beginning of the thirteenth century, the eastern extremity of the Church being left, as it still continues, in its original state. There is a plain canopy, without any appearance of a pediment, over the arch of this window, like that over the portal: the chief improvement is, that it rests, in the present instance, on corbel heads, namely, those of a King, and a Bishop."* The west end is supported by strong buttresses.

* See *Essays on Gothic Architecture*, 2 Edit. 1802. p. 144—148, in which the descriptions are illustrated by engravings.

buttresses. The aisles on each side are much lower than the body of the nave; and in the north aisle is a cinquefoil arch, resting on short columns of Purbeck stone, over an altar tomb, which appears to have been erected about the middle of the thirteenth century: the canopy is ornamented with crockets and a finial.

Such is the architecture of this venerable pile; and such are the exemplars, from the contemplation of which Mr. Milner imagines the English style to have arisen. Several of the windows, it should be observed, as well as arches, in other parts of the Church than those mentioned above, are pointed; and that amidst others of the same date, that retain the circular form. The great west window is richly ornamented with painted glass, placed in it at the expense of the present master, Dr. Lockman, and consisting of ancient figures of Saints; and various arms, of modern execution. In the choir are sixteen *Stalls*, over which are curious sculptures of the most illustrious personages of Scripture History.* The most curious funeral memorials in this fabric, are an ancient *brass*, in memory of John de Campden, the friend of Wykeham, and master of this Hospital; and a modern mural monument for Wolfran Cornwall, Esq. a late Speaker of the House of Commons. In different parts of the pavement are numerous glazed tiles, with hatched and other ornaments; some of them are inscribed with the monosyllables *REMEMBER*, (*Remember,*) in the black letter characters used in the fifteenth century.

The west wing of the remaining buildings of this Hospital consists of the apartments of the brethren, each of whom has three small chambers for his own use, together with a separate garden. The south side of the court, being out of repair, was pulled down some years ago. On the north side is Beaufort's Tower before mentioned; and adjoining to it, the Refectory, or common Hall, the roof of which is composed of Irish oak, and left open to the timbers. The Master's apartments, which are spacious and convenient, adjoin the Hall: in the windows of one of the galleries
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* These have been engraved by Mr. Carter, for his *Specimens of Ancient Sculpture*, together with the *Brass* in memory of John de Campden, &c.

is some curious painted glass. On the east side, extending from the north transept of the Church, is an open portico, 135 feet in length, anciently called the Ambulatory: above it is the ancient Infirmary, and some chambers called the Nuns' Rooms, from their having been allotted to the three hospital sisters on the foundation of Cardinal Beaufort.

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL, or *College Hill*, which is only separated from the meadows of St. Cross by the different branches of the river Itchin, has already been mentioned for the ancient entrenchment on its summit, and which, on good grounds, is supposed to have been formed by the Romans as a *Castrum Æstivum*.* On this eminence also, near the top, on the north-east side, is the form of a *Labyrinth* impressed on the turf by the continued coursings of the Students of Winchester College, who frequently thread its mazes in the full spirit of diversion and exercise.

The manor of TWYFORD, with the neighbouring village of Owslebury, belongs to Sir H. P. St. John Mildmay, Bart. whose principal seat is at Dogmersfield Park, in this county. The Mansion-House at Twyford, called *Shawford*, was built in the beginning of the last century, by Holiday Mildmay, Esq. son of Sir H. Mildmay, with the materials brought from the Convent at Marwell, which was pulled down for that purpose. Alderman Holiday, of the city of London, bequeathed by will, in 1656, the sum of 16,000*l.* to be laid out in land for the benefit of his daughter, (wife of Sir H. Mildmay,) and her heirs. With part of this sum, these estates were purchased, in the year 1660, from the Seymour family. This property being solely vested in the wife of Sir H. Mildmay, was exempt from the forfeiture of his other possessions. In the village of Twyford was a Catholic Seminary, where Mr. Pope was partly educated. In the Church at Twyford, is a fine mural monument, by Nollekins, to the memory of the late JONATHAN SHIPLEY, Bishop of St. Asaph, who died in the year 1788, in his seventy-fourth year, and an excellent bust of whom is here displayed.

* See page 16.

At MERDON, or MERDEN, between three and four miles south-west from Winchester, was a CASTLE, or *Palace*, of the Bishops of that See, erected by Bishop de Blois, about the same time that he built the Castle at Wolvesey. This was strongly fortified; but appears to have become ruinous in the fourteenth century. Only a shapeless mass of ruin, supposed to have formed part of the Keep, now remains. The area in which it stands, was surrounded by an immense double entrenchment, of a circular form; parts of which have been levelled.

Merden is conjectured, by Mr. Milner, to be the place called *Merantune*, by the ancient chroniclers, where Kynewulph, King of the West Saxons, was murdered by Kyenard, brother to the tyrant Sigebert, whom he had succeeded on the throne. Kyenard, who had been driven into exile, is said to have privately returned, and to have continued lurking in the woods near Winchester, till an opportunity occurred of effecting the assassination, which he at length found on the King's visiting Merden, to indulge an unlawful amour, accompanied by a few Thanes, who were all slaughtered in bravely defending him.

Merden has yet further claims to attention, it having belonged to the Protector, Richard, son of Oliver Cromwell, in right of his wife, Dorothy, the eldest daughter of Richard Major, Esq. of HURSLEY, an extensive parish, included in this manor. In the old mansion, at Hursley Park, Richard resided during great part of the time that his father held the Protectorate, and hither also he retired for a short period previous to the Restoration, and to his voluntary exile on the Continent. He returned to England about 1680; and some years afterwards instituted a process against his daughters, who, having obtained possession of the Hursley estate, refused to deliver it up, but offered him a small annuity in lieu of his right. On this occasion he was obliged to appear in Westminster Hall, where the Lord Chief Justice Holt,* treated him

* See Granger's Biography. The memorable anecdote connected with this trial, must not be omitted. On leaving the court, Richard rambled into the House of Lords: when the House broke up, a stranger

him with great respect, allowed him to appear covered, indulged him with a seat on account of his age, and made an order in his favor. After his death, his daughters sold the family estate to Sir William Heathcote, Bart. for 34 or 35,000*l*. Richard died at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, in July, 1712, at the age of eighty-six: his remains were removed to Hursley Church for burial, and were interred in the chancel, near those of his wife, and of several of his children, and relations.

HURSLEY LODGE, the seat of Sir William Heathcote, Bart. one of the representatives for this county, and grandson to the above mentioned Sir William, is a substantial, spacious edifice, situated in a pleasant Park. When the estate was purchased by his grandfather, the ancient manor-house was entirely taken down, in consequence, as tradition reports, of a vow made by Sir William, who declared, that because it had belonged to the Cromwells, "he would not let one stone or brick remain upon another, even in the foundations."* In the Minutes of the Society of Antiquaries, a curious circumstance is recorded as having taken place during the pulling down of the old house. In one of the walls the dye of a seal was found, which being very rusty, was supposed to be a Roman weight, and was bought as such from the workman, who discovered it, by Sir William Heathcote. When cleaned, however, it proved to be the Seal of the Commonwealth of England, and was supposed, by the artist Vertue, who saw it in the year 1760, to be the identical Seal which Oliver took from the Parliament.† The Park is well stocked with deer, and the woods and shrubberies are extensive.

CRANBURY HOUSE, the present residence of Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bart. is an extensive mansion, commanding some good

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views

to his history, asked him if he had ever heard or seen any thing like it before? "Never," he replied, "since I sat in that chair;" pointing, at the same time, to the Throne.

* Noble's Memoirs of the House of Cromwell, Vol. I. p. 195.

† Ant. Soc. Min. Vol. IV.

views of the surrounding country, in which the river Itchin, the Southampton Water, and the Isle of Wight, are prominent and interesting features. The home scenery is very fine, and the grounds are enriched by plantations. On the death of Lady Holland, this seat, with all the estates of the late Mr. Dinevoir, will descend to William Chamberlayne, Esq.

About sixty years ago, a *Medal*, or circular plate, of mixed white metal, three inches and a half in diameter, and bearing the head and inscription of Julius Cæsar, was dug up near OTTERBURNE, by some laborers digging for sand, at the depth of twelve feet. Mr. Milaer, who has had it engraved for his History of Winchester, describes it as similar to those that were fixed to the eagles, and other ensigns of the Romans; some of whom he supposes to have suffered a defeat near this spot, and to have been obliged to bury their ensigns, to prevent them falling into the hands of the Britons.*

STONEHAM PARK is the seat of the widow of the late John Fleming, Esq. who represented Southampton in Parliament for several years. The Mansion is an old building, seated rather low, but has been much improved and enlarged. The Park is extensive, and well wooded: it abounds with deer; and at the upper end has a pleasant Summer-house, from which the prospects are very fine: the grounds were laid out by Brown. Adjoining to the House is the Church of NORTH STONEHAM, a village about half a mile distant. Against the south wall is a superb monument to the memory of the late gallant Admiral Hawke, who was buried here; having, previously to his decease, inhabited the old Mansion, now the residence of W. Chamberlayne, Esq. between one and two miles to the south. The monument is fourteen feet high, and finely composed of white and variegated marble, bearing the family arms, with appropriate decorations, and a representation of the battle with Conflans in Quiberon Bay, anno 1759; from the original painting by Serres. Beneath is the following inscription:

D. O. M.

* History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 15. Note.

D. O. M.

This Monument is sacred to the Memory of

EDWARD HAWKE,

Lord Hawke, Baron of Towton, in the County of York,

Knight of the Bath, Admiral and Commander of the

Fleet, Vice Admiral of Great Britain, &c.

Who died Oct. 17th, 1781, aged 72.

The bravery of his soul was equal to the dangers he encountered; the cautious intrepidity of his deliberations superior even to the conquests he obtained. The annals of his life compose a period of Naval glory, unparalleled in latter times; for whenever he sailed, Victory attended him. A Prince, unsolicited, conferred on him favors which he disdained to ask.

Admiral Hawke was created a Baron, by his present Majesty, in May, 1776. Another inscription records the death of Catherine, his Lady, who was the daughter of Walter Brooke, Esq. of Walton, in Yorkshire, and died in 1756. This monument was executed by Mr. J. Fr. More, sculptor, of London.

In this Church is also the burial-place of the *Flemyngs*, who have been interred here from the time of James the First. On the tomb of SIR THOMAS FLEMYNG, Knt. afterwards Lord Chief Justice of England, are the effigies of himself, and his Lady: the former died in 1613, in his sixty-ninth year, and is represented in his official robes; the latter in the courtly dress of the times. Judge Flemyng, as appears from the inscription, was held in 'especial grace and favor,' both by Queen Elizabeth, and James the First.

At WOOD-MILL, on the river Itchin, are the curious Works erected by Mr. Walter Taylor, for the manufacture of *Blocks*, *Pumps*, &c. for the service of the English navy. These articles are made on improved principles, and, by the aid of the ingenious machinery employed in their construction, are much cheaper, more certain in their operation, and more durable, than those formerly in use. The improvement in the method of forming the

blocks, was first suggested by the late Mr. W. Taylor,* father of the above, who, in the infancy of the invention, resided with his son at Southampton, and there erected a new Sawing Machine for cutting the *shivers* for the blocks of a uniform thickness. For the sake of privacy, the operations were carried on in a large damp cellar, by the light of candles; and though the machinery was here worked entirely by hand, the new blocks were rendered so perfect, that, after a full examination of the patterns, the Board of Ordnance (anno 1759) agreed, that all the gun-tackle blocks used in the navy, should be thenceforth manufactured by the Messrs. Taylors. Soon afterwards, on the suggestion of several naval gentlemen, who had experienced the utility of the gun-tackle blocks, they began to adapt their improvements to the blocks used in the rigging,

* The machine now used in the Dock-Yards for driving *Stern Bolts*, was also invented by this ingenious artisan, who, in the early part of his life, agreed with a Merchant of London, to go as carpenter in a large vessel, then building in the river for the Levant trade. "During the work, he often attended, taking notice of every thing: one day he observed the difficulty of driving the stern-bolt, which could not be driven up to its head by the joint efforts of all the workmen in the neighbourhood, who were called together for that purpose: at length, while the men were gone to dinner, an apprentice-boy took up a maul, and, with comparative ease, struck the bolt *home to its head*. When the men returned, and saw what had been done during their short absence, they complimented the Devil with the honor of the deed," for no one but he could have done it. "This circumstance occasioned Mr. Taylor to consider the cause of the difficulty, and how it could be removed with so much apparent facility. He soon saw, that the boy had struck the bolt *in the centre of its head*, and thus drove it *straight forward*; while the workmen struck it *on one side* of the middle; and therefore, with all their efforts, could never have *got it home*. These observations, which, obvious as they may appear, had escaped the notice of the old workmen, led Mr. T. to invent a machine, with a slide running backward and forward in a groove, with a maul-head fixed at the end of it, so as to strike bolts *exactly in their centre*, and consequently to drive them in a *straight direction*. The formation of this slide was afterwards of the greatest service to him in the invention of his block machinery."

Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 86.

rigging, and with so much success, that, on a report of the Navy-Board, the new method was patronised by Government, and ordered to be brought into general use.*

The extensive business resulting from this order, occasioned a removal of the works from Southampton to *Weston*, where the power of water was employed to increase and give celerity to the operations of the machinery, as *sawings, borings, turnings, &c.* and here the celebrated *Friction Wheels* were introduced in lieu of cogs; but the water being often deficient, Mr. Taylor finally removed to Wood Mill, The works here erected, are on a much

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more

* “The capital blocks of the Royal Navy were formerly of large dimensions, under the idea, that *the larger the diameter of the shiver, the easier the purchase*; the operation being considered as that of a lever, which is not the case. Captain Bentinck, convinced of this, and of the *strength* of Mr. Taylor’s shivers and pins, ordered his own ship, the *Centaur*, then lying at Spithead, to be rigged with blocks and shivers of little more than *half the usual dimensions*, which proportionably reduced, first, the *price*, and secondly, the *weight*: the latter was found, by experiment, to be diminished twenty-six hundred weight, which was taken off from the masts only; at the same time, all the operations were performed with equal ease and expedition. These advantages being evidently so great, Mr. Taylor was urged, by Captain Bentinck, to endeavour to introduce a similar system throughout the whole navy; and on the former being ordered, by the Navy-Board, to replace the blocks burnt in the dreadful fire at Portsmouth Dock-Yard, in the year 1770, he took that opportunity to propose to the Board, to rig the ships in future after Captain Bentinck’s plan. On an objection being started, that reducing the diameter would be lessening the purchase, at Mr. Taylor’s request, experiments were immediately made in the Rigging-House. Shivers of the largest diameter were taken, and purchased against shivers half their diameter, and the smaller shivers were found to do the same duty as the larger with equal ease. Convinced of this fact, the Honorable Board immediately directed Mr. Taylor to draw up a regular table of the dimensions of blocks adapted to ships of every kind; this Mr. Taylor performed, with the assistance of Captain Bentinck, who was his intimate and kind friend, and the navy has been rigged ever since on this system.”

Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 92.

more extensive scale than those at Weston; and the machinery itself has been materially improved, particularly by the invention of *circular saws*, by which the manufacture of the blocks has been greatly expedited, and their use rendered more effectual.* Various and essential improvements have also been made by Mr. Taylor, in the construction both of the Hand and Chain Pumps, used in the navy; and by one of his later contrivances, it is asserted, that a ship may be cleared of four tons of water in two minutes and a half. The new pumps are also less liable to injury, and more easily repaired, than those formerly in use.

Below Wood Mill, but on the opposite side of the river, are the ruins of the PRIORY of ST. DYONISIUS, vulgarly called *St. Dennis's Priory*. This was founded, for Black Canons, by Henry the First; though Richard the First has been sometimes considered as the founder, from the considerable benefactions which he bestowed. Other donations were made by different Sovereigns; among whom was Edward the Third, who granted the canons a pipe of red wine for the celebration of mass, to be delivered to them at Southampton, by the King's butler. On the Dissolution of this Priory, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the annual value of its possessions was estimated at 80*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* according to Dugdale; and 91*l.* 9*s.* according to Speed. The site was then granted to Francis Dawtry; it is now the property of General Stibbert, of Portswood House. The ruins are only of small extent; and appear chiefly to have formed the west end of the Priory Church. The spot occupied by the monastic buildings is now the site of a farm-house. Some of the possessions of this house were held by the tenure of arming a certain number of men for the defence of Southampton.

PORTSWOOD HOUSE, the seat of Giles Stibbert, Esq. formerly a General in the service of the East India Company, is a handsome building, situated on an eminence, commanding a fine view over the river Itchin, and the Southampton Water, which, when the tide is up, forms a wide lake in front of the mansion.

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* The elder Mr. Taylor died about this period, (1762,) his health having been greatly impaired by confinement in the above-mentioned cellar during the progress of these improvements.

The surrounding scenery comprises a great variety of country, embellished with hanging woods, and gently rising hills. The pleasure grounds are laid out with much judgment, and are beautifully diversified: the shrubberies are extensive. The house was erected, from the designs of Mr. Crunden, about thirty years ago; but has since been considerably improved, and an elegant portico added, by Mr. J. Taylor of Southampton. The interior is commodious, and is fitted up and ornamented in a style of chaste simplicity. Some very fine paintings are distributed through the different apartments; the following are some of the principal.

A Landscape with Figures, and its companion, a Sea Piece; Teniers.

Two Landscapes; Hobbima.

CHARLES THE SECOND, in armour; Vandyck.

SIR ROBERT CECIL; Cornelius Jansen.

A Madonna, very fine; Carlo Dolci.

CHARLES THE SECOND, represented as St. George conquering the dragon; Rubens.

A Storm at Sea, and its companion, a Town on Fire by Moonlight; Vernet.

Hope, and Faith, two heads; Guido.

Alexander and his Physician, and its companion, Cæsar and his Friends; West.

A Landscape with Figures; Claude de Lorraine.

Two Landscapes, with Figures; Gainsborough.

A Landscape; Poussin.

BEVIS MOUNT, or PADWELL, the seat of Edward Horne, Esq. derives its former appellation from the celebrated *Sir Bevois*, the hero of Southampton, whose real history, like that of St. George, is involved in all the legendary envelopment of remote ages. The Mount was originally a vast pile of earth, rising in a conical form, from a foundation of great extent; and is traditionally said to have been thrown up by Sir Bevois, to obstruct the Danes in their endeavors to cross the Itchin. At high water, the tide forms a bay at the foot of this eminence; and the beauty of the prospect is then so much increased, that a former possessor

of

of this estate, Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, would never suffer his grounds to be inspected by strangers, unless the river was at its height. This nobleman, who is praised by Walpole for his enterprising spirit, and disinterested politics, was the friend of Pope, Swift, and Arbuthnot, and the warm patron of men of genius and literature. Under his direction, the grounds at Bevis Mount were disposed into a kind of wilderness, and here his Lordship frequently resided. This has also been the residence of the Poet *Sotheby*, the translator of Wieland's *Oberon*, whose taste, and classic elegance of phrase, shines particularly conspicuous in his various poems. His delicacy of sentiment, and true conjugal affection, are not less happily displayed by his sonnet intituled,

FAREWELL TO BEVIS MOUNT.

Mary! ere yet with lingering step we leave
 These bowers, the haunt of peace, where many a year
 Has o'er us past delightful,—if a tear
 Strays down my cheek, not for myself I grieve :
 Here thou hadst fondly hoped till life's last eve
 To rest. On yonder bank the flowers appear
 Nursed by thy culture ; there thy woodbines rear
 Their tendrils :—Thou, ah ! thou unseen mayst heave
 A sigh, what time we bid these groves farewell ;
 Yet in thy breast resides a soothing power
 That sheds the sweet not found in herb or flower :—
 Oh, Mary ! what to us where doom'd to dwell ?
 Enough that peace and thou canst never part ;
 Belov'd of me the spot where'er thou art.

Opposite Bevis Mount, on the western side of the Itchin, is BITTERN-FARM, a kind of circular peninsula, formed by the winding of the river, and the undoubted site of the Roman CLAUSENTUM. Leland, and some other antiquaries, have fixed this station in the immediate suburbs of the present Southampton ; but neither coins, nor other remains, have ever been discovered there to support the opinion ; whilst at Bittern, which is not more than a mile and a half northward from that town, they have been found in abundance. Here, observes Mr. Warner, who was the

first to vindicate the claims of Bittern by the strong evidence of facts,* “we can plainly trace the vestiges of Roman labor: a fosse, which divides the point whereon the *Castellum* stood from the main land, and part of a vallum, which, in its original state, before it was depressed by time and weather, must have been of great magnitude, appear to me to have been formed by that people. Fragments of Roman bricks are still visible among the rubbish of a decayed wall on the eastern side; and a long series of Roman coins has, at different times, been dug up at Bittern, among which appear those of Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Sabinus, Antoninus, Commodus, Lucilla, Alexander Severus, Constantius Constans, Carausius, Aurelianus, Valentinianus, and Valens.” The origin of the name of this station, Mr. Warner deduces from *Clausus*, shut up; and *intux*, within; terms explanatory of its situation with respect to the river; and which, by familiar use, would be contracted into *Claus-int*, or *Claus-ent*: to this the common Latin termination “*um*” being added, the name *Clausentum* is formed.

Additional proof of this having been a Roman station, was a few years ago obtained during the progress of building the new bridge at Northam, and of making the new road from Southampton to Botley, which has been carried directly across the area of Bittern-Farm. Numerous coins were then found, together with various urns, fragments of pottery, and other antiquities, of which some interesting particulars were communicated to the conductor of the Hampshire Repository, by Sir H. C. Englefield, and published in the second volume of that work, accompanied by illustrative plates; the following is an extract.

“The Roman wall itself is singular in its construction: its height cannot be ascertained: its thickness is about nine feet, and its materials flint, faced very roughly with small square stones, and a bending course of large flat bricks, running through its interior part;

* See “An Attempt to ascertain the Situation of the ancient *Clausentum*, by the Rev. Richard Warner,” 4to. 1792. Mr. Gough, however, had previously supposed the Roman station to have been at Bittern; and even Camden himself appears to have conceived the same idea, but hesitated in his decision.

part; it is extraordinary that it has no foundation whatever, but is literally set down on the surface of the ground, and is therefore undermined by the waters of the Itchin, which reach it at spring tides. A large bank of earth has been thrown up against it on the inner side; and it appears as if, at a distance of about nine feet within the outer wall, another wall, about two feet thick, had been erected, seemingly as a sort of strengthening to the rampart of earth. Within the area of the ancient wall, the remains of two very coarse pavements, or rather plaister-floors, are visible; one in the bank to the left of the new road, which has been in part washed away by the Itchin; the other in the ditch to the right of the road, about midway between the two roads. It seems not unworthy of remark, that the whole soil, as well within the wall, as between the wall and the outer ditch, is full, not only of fragments of bricks and tiles of various forms, but of small pieces of that beautiful earthen-ware, the color, polish, and grain of which, when broken, resemble fine sealing-wax, more than any other substance I know of. The ditches dug through these fields for the new road, have afforded me nearly a hundred pieces of this ware; some of them plain, some embossed with animals, masks, thyrsi, lyres, ears of corn, and poppies. An ornament at the top of the embossed part, like a deep festooned fringe, with tassels between each festoon, is almost universal in them. Fragments of vases, of a coarse earth, not finer than our garden pots, are pretty common; and some of these appear to have been of very considerable size. The largest were red; some others were of a dirty brown, like unbaked clay: those in which ashes and coins were found, were of the latter sort. One of these, when found, presented a most singular appearance, as it was inclosed within another which nearly fitted it, and whose mouth was so narrow as by no means to have admitted it in its hardened state; the fragments of both these vessels bear evident marks of the potter's lathe, both within and without. A fine and perfect *glass* urn was also found, but it has been unfortunately destroyed."

Among the other remains discovered here, are fragments of sculptured and other stones, which seem to have formed parts of a Roman

a Roman building. The old farm-house, also, which stands within the area of this station, and is now converting into a residence for Henry Hanson Simpson, Esq. furnishes a memorial of the Roman occupation of this spot, in a rude stone, inscribed as follows.

IMP. CÆS. LV
CIO DOMI
TIO AVRELIANO.

The farm-house appears to have been partly formed from a castellated mansion of the Bishops of Winchester, the ruins of which are noticed by Leland; and an old stone building, lately used as a barn, was probably in some manner connected with it, as the upper part of the wall, next the fosse, has loop-holes for the discharge of arrows. The area of the Station is about half a mile in circumference: some have supposed that it was connected with NORTHAM, a hamlet on the opposite bank of the river, where Roman coins are reported to have been found.

SOUTHAMPTON,

OR SOUTHTON, though not of Roman origin, is still of considerable antiquity, and very probably may date its rise from the decay of the station at Bittern; though at what particular era it became a town, is not to be distinctly ascertained. Its name has been the subject of some argument; but the most natural conclusion is, that it was derived from the river Ant, or *Anton*, which, after flowing from the upper parts of the county, and giving appellations to several places in its course, here widens into a considerable estuary, and, in conjunction with the station, forms the head of the Southampton Water; the supposed *Antona* of Tacitus. Those who controvert this etymology, deduce its name from the Saxon word *Ham*, a home, or residence, "which so frequently enters into the composition of the names of our towns, sometimes with, and sometimes without, the adjunct, *Ton*." The manner, however, in which the name is spelt in the Domesday Book, and other ancient records, is clearly in favor of the former opinion, as

in these writings it is spelt *Hantun*, and *Hantune*: the prefix of *South* most evidently arose from its relative situation to *Northam*. The county itself was also called *Hantunscyre*; though its name has been long corrupted, and, equally with Southampton, now suggests an erroneous inference in respect to its origin.

The earliest mention of this town occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, from which it appears, that it was attacked by the Danes, in the year 873, who landed from thirty-three vessels; but, after committing many atrocities, were repulsed, and driven to their ships. About 980, a body of Danes again landed here, and ravaged the town and its neighbourhood; and scarcely twelve years afterwards, they are recorded to have a third time plundered Southampton, under the command of Sueno of Denmark, and Olaus of Norway.

Whether the town was fortified previously to these devastations, does not appear with certainty; though an eminent antiquary, Sir H. C. Englefield, Bart. in a late publication, suggests the opinion that a *Castle* was built here by the Saxons, very soon after they had achieved a permanent establishment in this country. "The peculiar advantages of the narrow, and rather high point of land on which Southampton now stands," observes this gentleman, "commanding at once the Itchin and Test rivers, and very easily fortified on the land side, could not escape their notice; and, from the high circular hill, on which the keep of the Castle formerly stood, and the curved line of its yet remaining wall, we have probable grounds for supposing it to be among the most ancient of the Saxon Castles. But, besides the present existing fortifications, there is great reason to suspect, that the northern ditch of the town, filled up within the memory of man, and of uncommon breadth and depth, was continued quite across, till it met the Itchin, and completely insulated the Castle and present town. The antiquity of the Bar-Gate, whose central round arch is evidently much older than any of the other gates of the town, is no small confirmation of this supposition; as the walls and gates, with the exception of the Bar-Gate, appear to have been built at once, and are very uniform in their structure, some small parts only excepted. It is, however, immaterial to the view of the progressive

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sive augmentation of the present town, whether this conjecture, relative to the Bar-Gate, and its ditch, be well founded, or not; as it is equally certain, under either supposition, that the Castle would very soon form a town around itself; both by the habitations of those dependant on it as a fortress, and those who sought protection under its wings, from the multiplied dangers of that period of unceasing war and pillage. The very ancient Church of St. Michael was probably founded soon after the Castle, and was, as it now is, the manerial Church of the town: and it is worthy of remark, that the streets immediately under the Castle, are proved, by their names, to have been the original markets of the infant town; and that all the most curious remains of antiquity stretch along the shore of the Southampton Water, where the Castle protected them on the land side, and the sea rendered attack not very easy on any other.”*

The

* Walk through Southampton, p. 84, 86. From the very minute account in the same work, of the Walls and Gates of Southampton, the ensuing particulars are selected. The principal entrance to the town on the land side, is by the “large and extremely beautiful Gate, called emphatically, the *Bar*.* Its north front is of rather uncommon form, being a sort of semi-octagon, flanked with two lower semicircular turrets, and crowned with large and handsome machicollations. The arch of entrance is highly pointed, and adorned with a profusion of mouldings, which now end abruptly, a part of the flanks of the arch having been cut away to enlarge the carriage-way, which was inconveniently narrow. Above the arch is a row of elegant sunk pannels, alternately square and oblong. In each of the squares is a shield in relief, painted, with a coat of arms. These ornaments were added to the gate after the accession of James the First.

“The footways on each side are modern perforations through the old flanking towers, as the brick-work entirely covers the ancient walls; but, by inspecting the sides of the principal arch, it seems as if there had formerly been arches opening laterally into these towers. The arches
and

* This, it may be observed, was anciently the name of those edifices now called gates, while the word *gate* signified the street or road leading to the bar; a phraseology which still obtains in the north of England.

The different assaults made on this town by the Danes, render it probable, that it had obtained some importance very early, and
most

and front hitherto described, though probably 450 years old, are modern, when compared with the central part of the Gate, which is of early Norman work, if not more ancient than the Conquest. Its plain and massive round arches, which are considerably wider than the outer pointed one, are a full proof of this. Within this most ancient part, another addition has been made to the town, forming a plain and flat front; which, though never very handsome, was much injured by an awkward attempt to adorn it, at the beginning of the last century. The points of its ancient windows are obliterated; a painted rustic covers the old wall; and Queen Anne, in long embroidered stays, and a gown, whose folds would disgrace even the barbarity of Saxon sculpture, exhibits her jolly fat face from a Gothic niche in the centre. The battlements have however escaped the ravages of improvement; and an ancient alarm bell hangs in a niche formed for it, between two of them. The leads are spacious; and from these the gradual increase of this noble Gate is easily traced. The original Gate was flanked by two semicircular towers, towards the country; between these, and projecting beyond them, the present beautiful exterior front was added; the front towards the town appears the most modern of all. The two lions sejant, cast in lead, which now form a respectable guard at the entrance of the Gate, were formerly placed at the extremities of the parapet of a bridge which crossed the ditch before the Gate, and were removed to their present situation, when the ditch was filled up, and the bridge demolished.

From the Bar-Gate, "the Wall runs eastward about 200 yards, and is still visible, though encumbered with dwelling houses; among which, two semicircular towers are barely discernible. It terminates in this direction by a high round tower, which has a more modern appearance than any other part of the walls, and seems to have been built with embrasures, like Calshot Castle, for the reception of cannon. From this tower the wall runs quite straight, in a direction nearly south, till it reaches the water: at the distance of about 100 yards from the north-east angle, East-Gate formerly stood: this was demolished above thirty years ago; but a drawing of it is among Grose's Antiquities, and it appears to have been equally ugly and inconvenient. The whole length on this side is about 800 yards, and it is defended by
a broad

most likely from its commerce, for which its situation was very favorable. The accession of Canute to the British sceptre, put a
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a broad and deep ditch, in the bottom of which the new canal is dug, and fortified by eight turrets; six of them of a semicircular form, and two square ones, which, however, appear more modern than the others. These two were probably built about the time of Edward the Sixth; as that young Monarch, in the very curious account he gives his friend Fitz-Patric, of his summer excursion into this county,* says, that ‘the townsmen had spent much money in repairing their walls for his reception.’ The upper part of the north-eastern tower was probably built at the same time. The structure both of the wall and towers, is of coarse and irregular masonry: where the wall reaches the sea, it is terminated by a strong *Tower*, with a gate. The arch of entrance is pointed, and has within it two others, of different forms and heights, and two grooves for portcullisses: over this gate is the Bridewell. It seems evident, that originally the ditch was dug so deep, as to admit the sea, at high-water, quite up to the north-eastern angle of the wall, before mentioned; and the projecting tower and building, which we shall next survey, was very likely added to defend the sluices, on which so essential a requisite to the defence of the town depended. This mass of building is evidently less ancient than the walls, and probably of about the same date as the outer part of the Bar-Gate. Its irregular form, and projecting buttresses, render it a picturesque object.

“From the Tower and Gate just mentioned, the wall runs in a direction nearly west, for about 120 yards, having the sea washing its foot, till it meets the Great, or East Quay. In this length it is defended by one large and high turret, at which it makes a little bend to the northward. An ancient Gate, with a low pointed arch, with a groove for a portcullis, and machicollations over it, opens on this Quay; which projects into the river about 130 yards, and is evidently as ancient, at least in part, as the town itself. This *Water-Gate* has been so defaced by houses built against it on every side, that it is not easy to make out its original form; and in its present mutilated state, no one, but a staunch antiquary, could much lament its total removal, which is seriously talked of, and which would essentially conduce to the convenience
 of

* Letters of Edward the Sixth to Barnaby Fitz-Patric, printed by Mr. Walpole, at Strawberry-Hill.

period to the Danish ravages in this Island, and Southampton appears to have become an occasional residence of that Sovereign: and

of the commerce carried on upon the Quay.* Just beyond the northern tower of this gate, two machicollations appear on the wall, which, perhaps, defended another gate, or postern, opening on the Quay; but the lower part of the wall is here so completely blocked up by houses, that this point cannot be ascertained.

“ From the Water-Gate, the wall continues in a curved line to the north-west, with its foot in the sea. Its construction is here similar to the part already described; and the towers which defend it, are much of the same form, though only partially visible from the sea, as wharfs and timber-yards are now built out into the water in front of them. At about 200 yards from the Water-Gate, the wall makes a more sudden bend to the northward, and has the appearance of having slipped outwards from the foot into the sea. At the north end of this part, a high open arch appears in the wall; and beyond that arch, it continues quite plain, and very high, till it reaches the *West-Gate*. This gate is a low, plain, pointed vault, very strongly and carefully defended; there being in its thickness at least two grooves for portcullisses, and six square apertures for pouring hot water, or other annoyances, on assailants. The tower over this gate is modernized. The length of the wall, from the Water-Gate to the West-Gate, is about 380 yards.

“ To the north of the West-Gate, and fronting the area occupying the Public Baths, and Rooms, the wall is of great height, and exhibits a mode of building quite peculiar, and which seems singularly ill contrived for strength and defence. The wall may here be said to be double: the interior wall has been the front of a row of very ancient buildings; a part of which has been ornamented with Saxon double windows above, and doors of different forms below. These apertures have all been filled up, and against the front a row of high and slender piers is built, which partly cover the ancient apertures of the wall behind them. These piers are two feet two inches, in breadth, and project three feet, and three inches, from the wall; and they have a base projecting four inches

* The Water-Gate has since been actually taken down, and that, in the course of the last year, (1804.) together with an ancient building attached to it on the east; by which means a view of the New Forest has been opened to a considerable part of the High-Street.

and here he is recorded, by Henry of Huntingdon, to have repressed the impious flattery of his courtiers, by a most impressive

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lesson.

inches and a half every way, which is about eighteen inches high above the present level of the ground. At ten feet six inches above the base-ment, arches are turned from pier to pier, (leaving, however, an open space of one foot, eight inches, on an average, between the old wall and the new,) which are connected by stones at intervals, leaving interstices in the nature of machicollations, open to the sky. At a considerable height above the arches, the wall terminates in a parapet, with one battlement in the extent of each arch. The whole range of arches is in number nineteen; but they are not uniform either in size or figure. In the fourth arcade is a very curious small Postern, which has been defended by a portcullis, and opens into a narrow steep alley, called Blue Anchor-Lane. The wall beyond the arches, appears much older; and in it is a low Gate, with a pointed arch, called *Bridle-Gate*, over which are the brackets of two machicollations. The wall at this gate is five feet three inches in thickness. The length of the wall, from the West-Gate to the Bridle-Gate, is about 150 yards.

“ From the Bridle-Gate the wall makes a sudden projection at right angles, to its former line, of about sixteen yards; and then, being at its extreme angle fortified by a square tower, turns back at an obtuse angle: another square tower defends this face, which forms a large irregular projecting mass, beyond the general line of the wall; which then continues in a direction nearly due north, and is fortified by six very strong and handsome buttresses. The third of these buttresses is much larger than the rest, and has in it a door-case, high above the foot of the wall, and which probably was a water-gate to the Castle. In the intervals of the buttresses are traces of several loops, and small windows, which lighted a large vault: this part of the wall is beautifully mantled with ivy. The wall then runs northward, in a straight and flat face, and has one buttress more, at some distance from the rest, of most exquisite masonry. Just beyond this buttress is a large angular one, which, by flying arches to the wall on each side, supported a small tower. Here the wall goes off at an obtuse angle to the north-east, and has three very strong buttresses in this face: at this spot, the wall of the Castle abuts on the town wall. This point is 200 yards from Bridle-Gate.

“ Hence

lesson. They had hailed him as the Lord of Nature; when descending to the beach, he ordered a chair to be brought, and
having

“Hence the wall continues of very good masonry, straight to the north-west corner of the tower, and is defended by a very handsome semicircular turret, with a projecting parapet, supported by large corbels. The height of the wall, from its foot, is here twenty-eight feet; and of the turret, forty feet. The tide washes the whole of this wall quite to the north-west corner, which is 100 yards from the point above mentioned: the ground within is almost level with its top the whole way, so that it forms a most beautiful terrace to the gardens which belong to the houses of the High-Street, and Castle-Square, and run quite to the wall, commanding an enchanting view of the Bay from the town to the village of Milbrook, and the river beyond it quite to Red-bridge. The north-west angle of the wall is fortified by a very elegant angular buttress, with a projecting parapet, supported by corbels, forming a sort of small watch-tower; and very near it, to the eastward, is a high and strong circular tower. From this place the wall runs due east to the *Bar*, and is about 170 yards in length; one semicircular tower defends it. The total circuit of the walls is 2200 yards, or one mile and a quarter.” *Walk, &c. p. 13—31.*

“With respect to the date of the building of the wall, as we now see it,” observes the worthy Baronet, in another part of his publication, “difficulties arise in my mind. It is certain, that the northern, eastern, and that part of the southern wall, west of the Water-Gate, bear every mark of uniform regularity in their structure; and the gates of the town are apparently of the same date with the walls, and much resemble each other in the massy flat form of their pointed arches, which rise at an angle from their piers, being struck from centres below the level of their spring; a mode of construction used about the time of Edward the Second: yet the remains of semicircular towers, still visible on attentive inspection of the Bar-Gate, and which flanked its round arch, very much resembling, in form and mode of building, the towers of the north and east walls, lead me to suspect, that the wall, on the land side at least, is of higher antiquity than the time of the Edwards, and that the present gates were built later than the erection of the wall. The very singular position of the Water-Gate, which retires thirty feet behind the line of the eastern part of the south wall, and the odd position of the South-Gate, at the very angle of the wall, seem to indicate,

that

having seated himself, said to the flowing tide, "Thou art under my dominion, and the ground on which I sit is mine, nor can any disobey me with impunity: I command thee, therefore, neither to approach the feet, nor to wet the robes, of thy Royal Master!" But the rude waves, continues the historian, presently dashed over him, when, springing back, he exclaimed, "Let all the inhabitants of the world know, that the power of Sovereigns is weak and frivolous; and that none deserves the name of King, but Him whose will, by an eternal decree, the heavens, the earth, and the sea, obey." From that period, Canute would never wear his crown, but caused it to be placed on the great crucifix at Winchester: and it is worthy of remark, that the coins of this Monarch bear evidence of the fact, as they either represent him as wearing a mitre, or a cap, or triangular covering, similar to that on the coins of St. Edward.

In the Domesday Book, Southampton, or *Hantune*, as it is there called, is styled a *Burgh*, "in which the King has seventy-nine men in demesne, who pay a land-tax of seven pounds, and also paid the same sum in the time of Edward the Confessor; by whom the land which they held in the borough itself, was made free of taxes." By the same record, it appears, that sixty-five Frenchmen,

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and

that these gates were not of the original design. From the south-west angle of the wall, quite to the Bridle-Gate, which was close to the ballium of the Castle, the whole wall is a mass of irregular and almost inexplicable construction. I cannot help suspecting, that this side of the town, protected, as it was, by the Castle, and covered by the sea, was not at all, or but very slightly, fortified, until the fatal experience of the sack of the town by the French invaders, had proved that some further defence was necessary. The line of wall south of the West-Gate is irregular in its construction; and the wall between West and Bridle-Gates, which has been already described, bears evident marks of having been built in the most hasty manner, and with the greatest economy of materials. This wall, in its present form, I conceive to have been built about that period, when the old historians state Richard the Second to have fortified the town, and built the Castle; which he probably repaired and strengthened, but which evidently had been built several centuries before his time."

and thirty-one Englishmen, were provided with houses in *Hantune*, after the Conqueror was established on the Throne; and that forty-eight other houses, in the possession of various persons, whose names are mentioned, were exempted from tax by grant from the King. The Abbess of Warwell had also a fishery here, and a small plot of ground, which paid ten shillings.

These particulars evidently prove, that this town had attained considerable importance before the Norman Invasion, though it appears to have suffered greatly from the ravages of Earl Tostan. Henry the First is supposed to have made it a borough by charter, as the "Burgesses of Southampton" are mentioned in his grants to the Canons of the Priory of St. Dionysius, which he had founded. In a new charter, bestowed by Henry the Second, the Burgesses are confirmed in their "Gild, Liberties, and Customs," by sea and land. The liberties and customs by sea, plainly indicate, some commercial privileges and exemptions which they must have enjoyed, and consequently evince, that the commerce of the town was then worthy of notice.

Many additional privileges were granted to the Burgesses by King John, who exempted them from toll, passage, and pontage, by sea and land, in fairs, and in markets, throughout all his dominions, as well on this side the sea as beyond: by the same charter, he granted them the Port of Portsmouth, in ferm, for which, together with the ferm of Southampton, they were to pay 200l. yearly. The agreement to pay this sum, sufficiently indicates the opulence and flourishing state of the town at that period, which appears to have arisen principally from the *Wine* trade; and as early as 1215, the merchants of Southampton are recorded to have imported more wine than any other merchants in England, those of London excepted. In those days, white or sweet wines were mostly in use, and these were chiefly imported from Genoa and Venice, by aliens, who were restricted to this Port by a duty payable to Southampton, if the wine was landed elsewhere.* The former extent of this trade may be inferred from the numerous large

* Statutes at Large, &c.

large vaults beneath the houses near the Quay, in the High-Street, and in various other parts of the town.

In the reign of Henry the Third, the Barons of the Cinque Ports became very troublesome to the Merchants of Southampton, by frequently attaching their persons, and seizing their goods, under pretended reference to ancient grants. These grievances, however, being stated to the King, he issued a writ, dated the fourteenth of May, 1252, commanding the Barons to desist from their outrages: four years afterwards, he invested the Burgesses with new privileges, by a very ample charter, dated at Bristol, July the fourteenth, 1256. In the time of Edward the First, considerable trade was carried on between this Port and France; and the War which commenced towards the conclusion of the century, between that country and England, was in a great measure owing to the detention at St. Vallery and Barfleur, of some ships belonging to Southampton.

At the accession of Edward the Third, the trade of this town was very flourishing, and continued so till the commencement of the rupture with France, in 1338, on account of the refusal of the states of that kingdom to acknowledge the claims of Edward to its Throne. The same year the Mayor and Bailiff were commanded, by writ, to cause all their ships, of forty tons burthen, and upwards, to be victualled and furnished with men at arms, ready to defend the land, in case of invasion. These preparations, however, were made too late; the French, with their allies, the Spaniards and Genoese, landed in October, from a fleet of fifty gallies, and having slain all who opposed them, they entered and plundered the town, and afterwards destroyed the greatest part of it by fire: many of the principal inhabitants were at the same time inhumanly put to death. This fatal event interrupted the growing prosperity of Southampton, as many of the Merchants were totally ruined, and others afterwards removed to places less exposed to invasion. In the following year, an act was passed for re-building and strongly fortifying the town; and the King, in a new charter, confirmed all the grants made by his predecessors, and invested the inhabitants with additional immunities. In the same reign, it

was also enacted, (anno 1353, or 1354,) that all the wool, leather, woolfells, and lead, should be brought from the Staple-Houses at Winchester to this Port. Soon after the accession of Richard the Second, another attack was made on this town by the French, who appear to have been desirous of effecting its destruction; this time, however, they proved unsuccessful. The attempt appears to have led to the further strengthening of the town, as Richard is said to have erected a *Castle* for its defence; but that fortress was built long before, even so early as 1153. It was most probably repaired and enlarged by this Sovereign, at the same time that additions were made to the walls, and other fortifications constructed.* In this reign, a plan was proposed, by a rich Genoese merchant, for rendering Southampton one of the principal ports in Europe; but the jealousy of some London merchants is said to have defeated the design, and to have occasioned the death of the projector by assassination. The commercial immunities of Southampton were in this reign increased by a new charter; but, from the late pillage, and destruction of the town, and the alterations in the general system of traffic, these encouragements were inadequate to effect the restoration of its ancient trade. Henry the Fourth,

* Till lately, it has been a popular opinion, founded, indeed, on the authorities of Leland and Camden, that the ancient site of Southampton was round St. Mary's, in the suburbs; and that the burning of the town, by the French, in the time of Edward the Third, occasioned it to be re-built in its present situation. That this opinion was erroneous, is, however, incontestible, not only from the situation of the Churches, the *Domus Dei*, and other ancient buildings, but also from the age of the central part of the Bar-Gate, of some parts of the Walls, and of the foundation of the Castle, which certainly occupies the same spot which it did nearly two centuries previous to its destruction in the year 1338. "It is, however, probable, that the old town of St. Mary's, never very considerable, and which would naturally decline in proportion to the increase of the new town, being totally destitute of defence, suffered yet more severely than Southampton itself; and its destruction might be much accelerated by this disaster, as few would re-build their houses without the walls, who could by any means find habitation within them."

Fourth, in his first year, granted the town 200*l.* to be paid annually, during pleasure, for the repairs of the fortifications. In the same reign, the merchants of Genoa and Jeane, were permitted to import their merchandize into London, but were still obliged to land their commodities previously at Southampton, or to pay a duty, by way of penalty, for landing them elsewhere.

The English army, which gained such immortal honor on the plains of Agincourt, under Henry the Fifth, was assembled and embarked at Southampton; and here it was that the foul conspiracy against the life of that Monarch was previously discovered and punished. Some writers attribute this conspiracy to the influence of French gold; but others, with greater probability, ascribe its origin to the alliance of the Earl of Cambridge, second son to the Duke of York, with the family of the Earl of March, whose sister he had espoused. The Earl of Cambridge, Lord Scrope of Masham, and Sir Thomas Grey, were the principal conspirators; but the plot, which had for its first object the assassination of the King, was revealed by the Earl of March; and the above noblemen being immediately arrested, were brought to trial, condemned, and executed in this town. Lord Scrope, who had been a particular favorite with the King, was hanged, drawn, and quartered; the others were beheaded: their bodies were interred in the Chapel of the *Domus Dei*, or God's House; where the following inscription, in commemoration of this event, appears on a stone erected by a predecessor of the present Earl of Delaware.

RICHARD, EARL OF CAMBRIDGE,
LORD SCROPE, OF MASHAM,
SIR THOMAS GREY, OF NORTHUMBERLAND,
CONSPIRED TO MURDER KING HENRY V.

IN THIS TOWN,
AS HE WAS PREPARING TO SAIL WITH HIS ARMY AGAINST
CHARLES THE SIXTH, KING OF
FRANCE;
FOR WHICH CONSPIRACY
THEY WERE EXECUTED AND BURIED NEAR THIS
PLACE,
IN THE YEAR M.CCCC.XV.

The

The almost continual wars between England and France during this reign, and the former part of that of Henry the Sixth, greatly affected the commerce of this town, and impoverished its inhabitants, whose distresses are fully set forth in a new charter, granted in the year 1445. The subsequent contentions for empire between the Houses of York and Lancaster, still further contributed to the destruction of its trade: the feuds, indeed, run so high, that a fierce skirmish took place at Southampton, among the partizans of the rival Houses, in which several of the inhabitants were slain. About twenty others of the Lancastrian party were afterwards condemned and executed, and their carcasses were impaled by the King's orders.

During the succeeding reigns to that of Henry the Eighth, the commerce of Southampton continued in a tolerably respectable state, and the port was latterly much frequented by the merchants of Venice, who traded pretty largely in wool and tin. The impolicy of permitting the exportation of wool, however, was at length clearly understood; and effectual measures being taken to prevent it, great part of the commerce of this town was lost, as the Levant merchants being no longer able to supply themselves with that commodity, forsook the port.

From this period the importance of Southampton gradually declined for upwards of a century; and Bishop Gibson speaks of it as having lost most of its inhabitants, together with its trade. The great houses of the merchants, he observes, "are now dropping to the ground, and only show its ancient magnificence."* This state of things has, however, again altered; and both the population and commerce of the town have considerably increased during the last century: of late years it has also been much frequented as a watering-place; for which purpose its peculiarly healthful and pleasant situation is extremely favorable.

Southampton is built "on the extreme point of the high gravelly bank which separates the course of the Itchin river from the estuary of the Test, or Anton Water: by this happy choice, the whole town, though almost surrounded with water, enjoys the advantage

* Gibson's Camden, Vol. I. edit. 1695.

vantage of the driest situation; and the fall of level, in every direction, keeps the streets constantly free from damp and filth." The High Street, which runs nearly north and south, is upwards of half a mile in length, and particularly handsome and spacious. Leland notices it as one of the *fayrest* streets in England, and "well buildid for timbre building:" most of the houses are now, however, of brick. The entrance into this street from the land side is by the *Bar-Gate*, the approach to which is very striking, it being continued through an extensive and well-built suburb. On the north front of this gate, are representations of two gigantic figures, which are traditionally said to be intended for Sir Bevois, of Southampton, and the giant Ascupart, whom, according to the popular legends, he slew in combat. Over the arches of the gate is the *Domus Civica*, as Leland terms it, or *Town Hall*, which is fifty-two feet long, and twenty-one feet wide: the ascent to this is by a commodious stone staircase.

The CASTLE was situated on the west side of the town, but very little of the building itself is remaining. Its area was of a form approaching to a semicircle, or rather of a horse-shoe, in the southern part of which stood the keep, on a very high artificial mount. The keep was circular, but has given place to a smaller and more modern round tower, erected with the materials of the former one. The view of the town, and adjacent country, from this spot, is uncommonly interesting. The Castle has been very lately purchased by the Earl of Wycomb, and is now undergoing considerable improvement, for his occasional residence.

Southampton contains six parishes, and five Churches; all of which were in existence as early as the time of Henry the Second, who gave four of them to his Priory of St. Dyonisius. *St. Michael's*, which forms the eastern side of the square of the same name, is a very ancient and curious building. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low tower rising from the centre, and finished by a lofty and well-proportioned octagonal spire, erected about sixty years ago, as a sea-mark for vessels entering into this port. "On each side of the west window," observes Sir H. C. Englefield, who has given a particular description of this

structure in his Walk through Southampton: "the Saxon masonry of the original front is still discernible: in the eastern front the same masonry is also visible, together with a fragment of the little angular column which occurs so frequently in Saxon buildings, and a small morsel of a billeted moulding. The length of the Church from east to west, and the breadth of the nave, are unaltered, but the original side aisles have been taken down, and enlarged. The nave, with its side aisles, as far as the tower, is the only part of the Church used at present for the ordinary divine service; and is separated from the more eastern part by an open screen. The old Saxon columns have been, every other one, taken away, and handsome pointed arches, of considerable space, turned over the remaining ones: their capitals have a small fluting on them common to that style of architecture. The tower stands on four plain and strong semicircular arches, without any sort of ornament, except a very small impost moulding." In the north aisle of the chancel is a handsome monument, in commemoration of the Lord Chancellor WRIOTHESLEY; and in the opposite aisle, on the south, is a most curious antique *Font*. "It consists of a block of black marble, three feet four inches square, and one foot six inches deep, supported in its centre by a cylinder of the same material, ornamented with horizontal rings, so as much to resemble a barrel; and at each angle, by a plain pillar of white stone, one foot six inches high, and about six inches in diameter. The whole stands on another marble block, of about three feet square, and about seven inches deep, out of which are cut bases for the small columns, consisting of a flat ring on a large round cushion: these rest on a plain square plinth of about three inches high; a plain leaf falls from the bases of the columns on each angle of the plinth. The top stone is excavated into an hemispherical bason, two feet six inches in diameter, round which runs a scroll of foliage, of very rude execution, but not bad design; and the angles are filled with an imitation of the ancient ornament, now generally called the honeysuckle. The sides of the block, of which three only are now visible, as the font stands against the wall, are each divided into three circular compartments, with

with a sort of winged monster in each, something like a griffin, except one, which has an angel in a long robe of linen, covered with a shorter tunic: his hands are folded on his heart; and round his head is the nimbus, or glory: behind his shoulders are two wings, which reach to his feet. These sides are one foot one inch and a half deep; the remaining four inches and a half of the thickness of the block, slope away to the central cylinder, in a sort of fluting, or broad leaves, now much defaced. The workmanship of the whole is in the very rudest style of Saxon sculpture.”*

All Saints Church is an elegant modern structure, erected since the year 1792, in place of a former Church, which had been found too small for the increased population of the parish. It was built by Mr. John Hookey, from the designs, and under the direction, of the late Mr. Reveley, whose premature decease has deprived the arts of a very valuable supporter. “The front of this building, which is in the High Street, is sixty feet six inches wide, and is adorned with four three-quarter columns of the Ionic order, four feet diameter, and thirty-six feet high, supporting a pediment, on each side of which the angles are finished with *antæ*, or Grecian pilasters. The three central spaces are filled in the lower part by three wide and commodious arches for the entrance doors, with fan lights over them to light the vestibule; and on each side, between the column and pilaster, is a semicircular-headed window, lighting the gallery stair-cases: in the second range are five plain niches.”† The entablature is continued round the Church. At the east end is a turret, rising from a square basement, and consisting of six corinthian columns, supporting a circular entablature, on which is an attic, with three faces for the dial, crowned by a dome: this, from its elevated situation, can be seen many miles each way. On entering the Church, the attention is immediately arrested by the bold and graceful curvature of the roof, which springs from the mouldings of the interior pilasters, as from an impost, and is wholly unsupported by columns; its form is that

of

* Walk through Southampton, p. 66—80.

† Skelton's Southampton Guide, p. 34.

of the segment of a circle, and its rise eight feet. The altar is contained in a recessed arch, very elegantly ornamented. The length of the Church, in the inside, including the vestibule, but omitting the recess for the altar, is ninety-five feet; its breadth, sixty-one feet; its height, from the pavement to the middle of the ceiling, forty-seven feet. The basement, on the south side, and the square plinths of the great columns, are of stone; all the other parts of the building are of brick, stuccoed. The substruction of this Church is divided into arched vaults, or catacombs, so contrived as to prevent any nuisance arising from the practice of interment: as an additional precaution, the coffins, which must be of lead, are always inclosed in stone. The remains of CAPTAIN CARTERET, the celebrated circumnavigator, and of the late BRYAN EDWARDS, Esq. of Springfield, near this town, author of the History of the West Indies, are deposited in this building.

Holy Rood Church is a large building, with a tower at the south-west angle, and a colonnade in front, vulgarly called the *Proclamation*, where the hustings is erected, and the poll taken, on the election of the representatives for this town. The interior is handsome, and had formerly a regular choir, many of the stalls of which yet remain. Here, among other monuments of the *Stanleys* of Poultons, is one, executed by Rysbrach, to the memory of MISS E. STANLEY, sister to the late Right Hon. Hans Stanley, with an elegant inscription by the poet Thomson, who has also celebrated this accomplished woman in his *Seasons*. She died in the year 1738, at the age of eighteen, "a mistress not only of the English and French, but in a high degree of the Greek and Roman learning." The Churches of *St. Mary*, and *St. Lawrence*, are not particularly remarkable. The parish of *St. John* was annexed to that of *St. Lawrence* in the year 1706; and its Church has been long pulled down.

The *Parsonage* of Holy Rood Church is an old and curious edifice. Various other buildings, in different parts of the town, display considerable antiquity, and particularly the spacious mansion in Porter's Lane, near the site of the Water Gate, which has been

been minutely described by the ingenious pen of Sir H. C. Englefield,* who conjectures it to have constituted a part of the palace, occasionally inhabited by the Saxon and Danish Sovereigns: the length of the front of this building is 111 feet.

The *Domus Dei*, or God's House, was founded in the reign of Henry the Third, by two merchants, brothers, of the names of Gervasius, and Protasius. It was afterwards given, by Edward the Third, to Queen's College, Oxford, which had been founded by Philippa, his Queen, and to which it still belongs. The present establishment consists of a Warden, four aged men, and as many women, who are allowed two shillings each, weekly, from the College; and have a yearly donation of coals from another charity. The Chapel is very ancient; but its original form has been greatly altered by repairs. Divine service is now performed here in the French language; and the congregation chiefly consists of the natives of Jersey and Guernsey, who reside in Southampton.

Among the other ancient institutions in this town, was a House of *Grey Friars*, founded in the year 1240, but of which scarcely any remains are now standing; part of its site being occupied by Glocester Square; and another part, by a large building, originally constructed as a Sugar Refinery, afterwards converted into a Military Hospital, and now used as a warehouse "for the vast quantities of Spanish wool, which, by *stress of weather*, are landed here every year." Here was also an *Hospital* for Lepers, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and long previous to the Dissolution, given to the Priory of St. Dyonisius. *St. John's Hospital*, a less ancient establishment, for the instruction of six boys in the woollen manufacture, has been lately given to the Poor House by the Corporation, with the consent of the heir of the founder. The *Poor House* is a large modern and convenient building.

A *Free Grammar School* was established in Southampton by Edward the Sixth, in an old building in Winkle-Street, now used as a carpet manufactory, from which, many years afterwards, it was

* See Archæologia, Vol. XIV. The description is illustrated by three engravings.

was removed to its present situation, an ancient mansion, known by the name of West-Hall: the dining-room has a stuccoed ceiling in compartments, and is supposed to be at least as old as the time of Henry the Eighth. The master is appointed by the Corporation; but the original plan has been departed from, the scholars being chiefly boarders. A *Charity School* for ten boys has also been established here, by means of a donation bequeathed previous to the year 1760, by Alderman Taunton, of this town: some part of the produce of whose bequest is appropriated, under a decree of the Court of Chancery, to the apportioning female servants on their marriage, who may be able to prove a faithful servitude of four years or upwards. *Sunday Schools* were instituted here in the year 1786, and are still continued: the overplus of the funds, which arise from gifts, and annual subscriptions, are appropriated to the support of a *School of Industry*; for the more complete instruction of twenty-five girls taken from the sunday schools. Near the entrance of the town, on the right, is a neat building, or range of *Alms-Houses*, erected about fifteen years ago, for the accommodation of eighteen poor widows, who are allowed two shillings each, weekly, from the produce arising from a bequest by Robert Thorner, Esq. of Baddesley, who died in July 1690.

Southampton is a county in itself, a privilege bestowed on it by King John, and as such is independent of the Lord Lieutenant, and Sheriff of Hampshire, having its own Clerk of the Peace, which office has been added by charter to that of Town Clerk. The Corporation consists of a Mayor, Recorder, Sheriff, two Bailiffs, and a Common-Council, (constituted by all those that have served the foregoing offices,) a Town Clerk, two Coroners, and other inferior officers. These are chosen under a charter of Charles the First, which, however, is little more than a confirmation of the charters granted by many of his predecessors. The Corporation have the power of choosing non-resident Burgesses, who, though not members of the Common-Council, are privileged to vote at elections for the Mayor, and for the parliamentary representatives: the number of voters for the latter is about 600; and consists of the Burgesses, and such of the inhabitants as pay

scot and lot: the first return was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The Mayor is Admiral of the Liberties from South-Sea Castle to Hurst Castle, and half-sea over from Calshot to the Isle of Wight. The records and regalia of the Corporation are kept in the *Audit-House*, a handsome building, erected about thirty years ago; the ground floor of which is open, and, with a large area behind it, forms a commodious market, which is exceedingly well and plentifully supplied: the market days are every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Four *Fairs* are held here annually; the principal of which is opened by the Mayor and Bailiffs, with much ceremony, on the Saturday preceding Trinity Sunday, and continues till the Wednesday noon following. It is held near the east side of the town, on the road leading to the Chapel Mill, on the site of which was formerly an *Hermitage*, occupied by William Geoffry, to whom, and to the town of Southampton, this fair was granted by one of the Henries. During the continuance of the fair, no person can be arrested for debt within its precincts.

The attractions which Southampton presents for sea-bathing, and other healthful purposes, are increased by a *Chalybeate Spring*, rising about 100 yards to the westward of Bar-Gate, and much in repute for its medicinal qualities. The *Baths* are convenient; and every attention is paid to the accommodation of the numerous visitants who frequent this town during the bathing season. The great influx of company of late years, has, indeed, given origin to many improvements; though even here, as at Clifton,* speculation has acted on false data, and several plans for additional buildings, from which important advantages were predicted, have been either abandoned altogether, or had their execution protracted to a distant and unknown period. The *Assembly Rooms* are beautifully situated near the West Quay, and very elegantly fitted up; the Long Room was built in 1761, the Ball Room about six years afterwards. A *Theatre* was erected here in 1766; but this, though subsequently enlarged, being still found inadequate to accommodate the numbers that frequently sought admission, a new one, on a much more extensive and commodious scale, has just been built, on the site of St. John's Hospital. Additional recreation is de-

* See Vol. V. p. 732.

rived from the *Races*, which are annually held on Stoneham Common, about three miles from the town; and from an annual *Sailing Match*, instituted by G. H. Rose, Esq. one of the Members for Southampton.

The principal trade of this port is with Portugal and the Baltic, and the Islands of Jersey and Guernsey: to the two latter places, 6000 tons of unwrought wool are allowed to be exported annually; great part of which is again returned, manufactured into coarse knit hose: hemp, iron, and tallow, are imported from Russia; and tar and pitch from Sweden; the importations from Portugal are chiefly wine and fruit. English iron is also brought coastwise from Wales; and coals, lead, and glass, from Newcastle. The situation of Southampton being far more favorable for navigation than manufactures, the latter are principally confined to those of silk and carpets. Formerly, sloops of war and frigates were built here; but this business has declined, and only small vessels are now constructed. For commercial purposes, three *Banks* have been established at Southampton; and an Act of Parliament obtained, for cutting a *Canal* from the platform on the south side of the town, to the Andover navigation at Redbridge, &c. but this, as well as other projected improvements, are now in a dormant state, from the general effect of the war—a want of money.

The principal springs which supply the inhabitants with water, for domestic purposes, rise in the hill about a mile north of the town, and unite at an ancient stone conduit-house, near the Polygon, whence the water is transmitted to the conduits within the walls through leaden pipes. The population of Southampton, as returned under the act of 1801, was 7913; viz. 3390 males, and 4523 females: the number of houses was 1582. The environs of the town are particularly pleasant; and the neighbouring country abounds with elegant seats, and finely situated villages. Near the town, on the north, are *Barracks* for the reception of cavalry, which have been lately erected by Government, and occupy about two acres of ground.

With the eminent natives of Southampton is enumerated DR. ISAAC WATTS, born in July 1674. His father kept a boarding-school

school for young gentlemen; but young Watts appears to have been very early sent to the Free-School in this town, where his proficiency in languages became so conspicuous, that a subscription was proposed to support him at the University: this scheme, however, failed, from his resolution to take his lot with the Dissenters; and "such he was," observes Dr. Johnson, "as every Christian Church would rejoice to have adopted."* About the age of twenty-two, he became domestic tutor to the son of Sir John Hartopp, with whom he continued five years, when he was appointed to succeed Dr. Chauncey, as pastor to a religious congregation. In 1712, his health was irreparably injured by a violent fever, of long continuance, which rendering the kind offices of his friends necessary, he was prevailed on, by Sir Thomas Abney, to reside with him; and in his family he continued during the remainder of his days, being "treated with all the kindness that friendship could prompt, and all the attention that respect could dictate." He died in his seventy-fifth year, of mere decay from age; after a life of active piety, and unwearied benevolence. His writings are numerous, and much valued; particularly those which relate to the instruction of youth, from "the dawn of reason, through its gradations of advance in the morning of life." His *Treatise on Logic* has been admitted as a class book into the Universities; and his *Improvement of the Mind* is equally valuable for the purposes of education. Some of his poetry is very pleasing; his *Translation of the Psalms* is by far the best in general use: "It is sufficient," says Dr. Johnson, "for Watts to have done better than others, what no man has done well." The merit of his labors procured him an unsolicited diploma, which he received from Edinburgh and Aberdeen in 1728. The praise bestowed on him by the eminent critic already referred to, marks both the vigor of his genius, and the extent of his capacity. "He has provided instruction for all ages, from those who are lisping their first lessons, to the enlightened readers of Malebranche and Locke; he has left neither corporeal nor spiritual nature unexamined; he has taught the art of reasoning, and the science of the stars."

From the South Gate, and Platform at Southampton, runs a *Causeway*, or *Causey*, planted with trees, and nearly half a mile in length. This walk is called the *Beach*, and in its whole length commands a view of the Southampton Water, enlivened by a multitude of vessels, and closed by the Isle of Wight. Near its eastern extremity is the *Cross-House*, and Itchin Ferry: the former is a small round structure, with four divisions, or apartments, opposite to the principal points of the compass, and intended for the accommodation of passengers waiting for the ferry-boat. In one of the quarters are the arms of Southampton, with the date 1634; but parts of the building are apparently much older. "At this point the ferrymen do homage to the Mayor and Corporation, whenever the perambulation of the boundaries of the town is performed; and, in return for the permission of landing on the demesne of the town, engage at all times to carry over gratis, the Burgesses and their families."

About three miles from Southampton, to the south-east, in a very beautiful situation, at a little distance from the banks of the Southampton Water, are the ruins of NETLEY ABBEY; formerly called *Letley*, or Pleasant Place, and also *Edward-stow*, by which name it occurs in a charter granted by Henry the Third, who is generally considered as its founder; though some doubts have been raised as to the fact. Henry's charter is dated in the thirty-fifth of his reign, (anno 1251:) but Tanner asserts, that the Abbey was founded in 1239; and it is certain that Roger de Clare (on consideration of receiving 500 marks sterling) endowed it with certain possessions within three years of that period, that is in 1242. Among its subsequent benefactors, were Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, Robert Ver, and Walter de Burg; the latter of whom invested it with lands in the county of Lincoln, which he held of the King, *in capité*, by the service of presenting him with a head-piece, lined with fine linen, and a pair of gilt spurs. Its inmates were of the Cistercian order, and had been originally brought from the neighbouring Abbey at Beaulieu. At the time of the Dissolution, their number was thirteen; and the annual value of their possessions, according to Dugdale, was only 100l. 1s. 8d.

yet Speed has returned it at 160l. 2s. 9½d. Their library, as appears from Leland's Collectanea, could boast but of a single book, and that was the *Rhetorica Ciceronis*. In the year 1537, Henry the Eighth granted the site of the Abbey to Sir William Paulet, afterwards Marquis of Winchester. From his family it appears to have passed, probably by purchase, to that of the Earls of Hertford; as Edward Seymour, son of the Protector Somerset, who was restored to the titles of Earl of Hertford, and Baron Beauchamp, by Queen Elizabeth, resided here in the year 1560, and entertained his Royal mistress in the month of August, in *Netley Castle*.* Towards the end of the following century, it became the property of the Marquis of Huntingdon; and has since passed through several families to Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bart. who obtained it by his marriage with the widow of the late N. Dance, Esq. together with the ancient mansion called WOOLSTAN HOUSE, which occupies a very fine situation contiguous to the Itchin river.

Netley Abbey stands on the declivity of a hill, rising gently from the water; but so environed by beautiful woody scenery, as to be almost secluded from observation, except on a near approach. The ruins have often furnished a theme for poetical description, and moral precept; and the lyre of Keate, of Sotheby, and of Bowles, has been alike employed in mournful plainings over the fallen splendor of this foundation.

“ Now sunk, deserted, and with weeds o’ergrown,

Yon prostrate walls their awful fate bewail;

Low on the ground their topmost spires are thrown,

Once friendly marks to guide the wandering sail.

The ivy now with rude luxuriance bends

Its tangled foliage through the cloister’d space,

O’er the green window’s mouldering height ascends,

And fondly clasps it with a last embrace.

K 3

While

* This is corroborated by the following entry in the register of St. Michael's Parish, at Southampton. “The Queen's Majesty's Grace came from the Castle of Netley to Southampton on the thirteenth day of August, and she went from thence to the City of Winchester on the sixteenth day, 1560.”

While the self-planted oak, within confin'd,
 (Auxiliar to the tempest's wild uproar,)
 Its giant branches fluctuates to the wind,
 And rends the wall, whose aid it courts no more."

KEATE'S NETLEY ABBEY.*

The destruction of the Abbey Church, or Chapel, according to Browne Willis, commenced about the period when it was inhabited by the Marquis of Huntingdon, who converted the nave, or west end, into a kitchen, and offices. Sir Bartlet Lucy, as appears from this writer, (but others say the Marquis of Huntingdon,) sold the materials of the whole fabric to a Mr. Walter Taylor, a builder, of Southampton, soon after the beginning of the last century, for the purpose of removing them, to erect a town-house at Newport, and dwelling-houses at other places. An accident which befel Mr. Taylor, in consequence of this purchase, and which afterwards led to his death, has been regarded by the vulgar as a judgment inflicted by Heaven, for his presumed guilt, in undertaking to destroy a sacred edifice; but more enlightened understandings can only regard it as the effect of a fortuitous combination of circumstances, in perfect accordance with the established laws of Nature.

* The elegiac effusion of Bowles over the dismantled, but picturesque, remnant of this Abbey, possesses great beauty.

" Fall'n pile! I ask not what has been thy fate;—
 But when the weak winds, wafted from the main,
 Through each lone arch, like spirits that complain,
 Come hollow to my ear, I meditate
 On this world's passing pageant, and the lot
 Of those who once might proudly, in their prime,
 Have stood, with giant port; till, bow'd by time
 Or injury, their ancient boast forgot,
 They might have sunk, like thee: though thus forlorn,
 They lift their heads, with venerable hairs
 Besprent, majestic yet, and as in scorn
 Of mortal vanities and short-liv'd cares;—
 E'en so dost thou, lifting thy forehead grey,
 Smile at the tempest, and Time's sweeping sway."

Nature. The original narrative of this event, as given by Browne Willis, is in several particulars erroneous, as appears from the result* of a late enquiry, made of Mr. Taylor's family; and the substance of which is as follows. After Mr. Taylor had made his contract, some of his friends observed in conversation, that they would never be concerned in the demolition of holy and consecrated places: these words impressed his memory so strongly, that he dreamed, that, in taking down the Abbey, the key-stone of the arch over the east window fell from its place, and killed him. This dream he related to Mr. Watts, (father of Dr. Isaac Watts,) who advised him not to have any personal concern in pulling down the building; yet this advice being insufficient to deter him from assisting in the work, the creations of sleep were unhappily realized; for, on endeavoring to remove some boards within the east window, to admit air to the workmen, a stone fell upon, and fractured his skull. The fracture was not thought mortal; but, in the operation of extracting a splinter, the surgeon's instrument entered the brain, and caused immediate death. Whether this accident occasioned a direct stop to be put to the demolition of the Abbey is uncertain, but the superstitious gloom which it generated, has had an evident tendency to the preservation of the ruins in more modern times.

The *Chapel* was built in the form of a cross, and was originally a very elegant structure, in the English style of architecture; but its beautiful roof, richly adorned by ramifications spreading from the intersections of the groining, has fallen in, its north transept is destroyed, most of its windows are bereaved of their tracery, and many other parts are completely mutilated. The southern transept, and the east end, are the most perfect; the columns and arches which remain are beautifully light, and elegant. On the north side of the intersection of the transept, are the remains of a spiral staircase, that led to the upper part of the tower, which is reported to have been ornamented with pinnacles, and served as a mark for seamen. Various devices, and armorial insignia, supposed to be those of the benefactors to the Abbey, may be traced

on the ruins that strew the ground. The length of the Chapel appears to have been about 200 feet, and its breadth, sixty: the extent of the transept, when entire, was nearly 120 feet. Many parts of the ruins are finely mantled with ivy; and the various trees that have sprung up among its mouldering walls, greatly increase the picturesque appearance of the whole.

Several other parts of the monastic buildings remain; but all of them are dilapidated. The *Abbot's Kitchen*, as it is generally called, though more probably an ancient Crypt, adapted to that use by the Earls of Hertford, is a curious vaulted apartment, about forty-eight feet long, and eighteen broad. The chimney, or fireplace, is of very singular form; nearly opposite to it, is a dark vault, or aperture, said to terminate in a coppice at some little distance from the Abbey. The *Chapter-House*, which formed a square of about thirty-six feet, and was of elegant architecture, the *Refectory*, about forty-five feet in length, and twenty-four in width, and some other apartments, may also be distinguished. These buildings, with others now almost obliterated, appear to have inclosed a quadrangular court, of which the Chapel bounded the south side. A moat, that surrounded the Abbey, may yet be traced; and at a short distance, overhung with trees and underwood, are two large ponds, which supplied the Monastery with fish.

Near the Abbey, but more immediately contiguous to the Southampton Water, are the ruins of the small fort called NETLEY CASTLE, which was erected by Henry the Eighth, at the same period that he built Calshot, and other castles in this vicinity. The views over the water from this fort are good, but the building itself affords no materials for description.

At HAMBLE, a small village near the mouth of the river of that name, was an alien PRIORY of Cistercians, which appears to have been a Cell to Tyrone Abbey, in France, as early as the time of De Blois, Bishop of Winchester.

About three miles up the Hamble river, is the village of BURSLEDON, where several fine vessels have been built for the British navy. The creek is particularly commodious for this purpose, and the depth of water sufficient for eighty gun ships; two of this size are recorded to have been built here in the time of William the

the Third. On the barren waste stretching eastward from this village, the gallant troops, which the Earl of Moira conducted to Ostend, in 1794, were previously assembled and encamped; and here also, in the summer of 1800, was the rendezvous of a part of the army with which the brave Sir Ralph Abercrombie tore the ensanguined laurel from the grasp of the French Invincibles on the sands of Egypt.

BOTLEY is a respectable village, having a considerable flour trade; the mills being worked by the water of the Hamble river, which is navigable for boats to this place. The *Church* is nearly a mile distant to the south, and consists only of a nave and chancel; the font is ancient and curious. Botley was the residence of the late *Robert Stares*, whose infamous practices will probably occasion his name to be long remembered with detestation. He was a miller, breeder, and farmer; yet his cupidity was such, that he scrupled not to exercise what ever means would enable him to obtain money; though by his imposing address, he continued for a great number of years to ward off the consequences of his knavery, and to procure the reputation of being an honest man. His arts, however, were at length detected, and his possessions were seized, and sold for the benefit of his creditors; but not before his exaggerated estimates had so greatly imposed on the judgment of eight gentlemen, that they became his trustees, to the eventual loss of nearly 50,000*l*. He died in April, 1798; a melancholy victim to feelings mingled of shame, vexation, and remorse.*

TOWNHILL, about two miles west of Botley, is the seat of Nathaniel Middleton, Esq. who has lately erected a spacious and elegant mansion here, with suitable offices, on an eminence commanding some extensive and interesting views: the Park and Gardens are pleasant. Several neat villas adorn the country between this mansion and Southampton, particularly MIDANBURY LODGE, the property of R. Johnson, Esq. BITTERN LODGE, the seat of James Dott, Esq. and CHESSEL, the residence of David Lance, Esq.

BELLE-VUE, the delightful residence of Josiah Jackson, Esq. is situated near Southampton, on the west side of the Itchin river.

The

* In the Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. is a well-written memoir of this artful speculator, occupying upwards of twenty-four pages.

The house is a superb modern edifice, commanding a most exquisite prospect over the Southampton Water, which appears spread out like a spacious lake, and the adjacent country. The Shrubberies and Gardens are extensive; the Green-House, and Hot-House, are very elegant, and furnished with plants of almost every description, both indigenous and exotic.

About one mile and a half north-west from Southampton is FREEMANTLE, the villa of John Jarrett, Esq. the interior of which is very elegantly ornamented, and particularly a Parlour, whose sides are veneered with choice marble, purchased in Italy by the present proprietor. The Library and Drawing-Room are tastefully ornamented with arebusque paintings: two neat Lodges have been lately erected here with artificial stone.

REDBRIDGE, a populous hamlet, at the mouth of the river Test, in the parish of Milbrook, is of very remote origin, and is mentioned, in Bede's Ecclesiastical History, by the appellation *Reodford*, or *Reed-ford*: this was afterwards changed to *Rodbrige*, as appears by the Domesday Book; and hence the derivation of its present name. Here was a *Monastery* in the infancy of the Saxon Church, but no particulars concerning it are known. Cynbreth, or Cimberth, who was Abbot about the year 687, is recorded to have converted, and baptised, the two brothers of Arvandus, the Sovereign of the Isle of Wight, before their execution by command of Ceadwalla, King of Wessex, who had conquered that Isle, and treated its inhabitants with great inhumanity.* Redbridge has a considerable trade in coals, timber, corn, &c. and ship-building has been carried on here for a great length of time.† The Andover Canal terminates here, and the whole place has

* The young Princes had crossed from the Isle of Wight to Hampshire, and concealed themselves at a place called *Ad Lapidem*, but were afterwards betrayed to Ceadwalla. *Ad Lapidem* is supposed to be *Stone*, in the parish of Fawley, as that place is on the sea-coast, and immediately opposite to the Isle of Wight.

† Several vessels have lately been built at Redbridge, calculated for very swift sailing, on the curious construction of Brigadier General Bentham

has a very busy appearance. The *Bridge* is partly of considerable age, and partly modern; it unites with a new causeway, that has been continued over the marshes to the village of Totton.

Having

Bentham, now superintendant of naval-works in the Dock-Yards. "This gentleman, who possesses an extraordinary genius in the ship-building line, received permission from the Lords of the Admiralty, in the spring of the year 1795, to put some of his experiments into execution at Redbridge. In the formation of these vessels, the saving in the article of timber is very great, as they do not take up more than an eighth part of that which is employed in the common mode of framing ships. Bulk-heads, or partitions, are placed athwart the vessels, as well as fore and aft; which make them at least equally strong with ships constructed in the ordinary way, at about half the expence, and are also calculated to preserve them from sinking, should they at any time spring a leak, or strike against a rock, and the water would then be confined by these bulk-heads. The two first of the vessels built under General Bentham's inspection, were called Gun Schooners. These were each from 140 to 160 tons burthen, and were named the Redbridge, and the Milbrook; one of them carrying sixteen, and the other fourteen, eighteen pounders. The two next were each of 600 tons, and were called the Dart and Arrow, each carrying twenty-eight thirty-two pounders: these were denominated Sloops of War, but they are at present equal, if not superior, to our common frigates of twenty-eight guns. Instead of their usual ballast, they are furnished with capacious tanks, or reservoirs, made of tinned copper, and containing forty tons of water in bulk: these are placed in the wings of the vessel; take up but little room, and are not found in the least detrimental, even in heavy gales. The water with which they were filled, after having been two years on board, still retained its sweetness and transparency. The two last that were built, very nearly resembled the first: they were named the Netley and the Eling; one of them has fourteen, and the other twelve, eighteen pounders. Those who have sailed in these various vessels, as well as gentlemen well acquainted with naval tactics, agree, that they are equally strong with our ordinary ships; that they sail better, and that they are, on the whole, the best sea-boats that swim; they will also safely ride at anchor, in such circumstances as would oblige other vessels to part, or at least, slip their cables."

Buller's Companion round Southampton, 1801.

Having entered the ancient precincts of the NEW FOREST, we shall give a somewhat extended account of that district; as it is not only interesting in itself, but also from its connection with history, and particularly so with regard to the annals of the first and second of our Norman Sovereigns. This tract, according to its earliest boundaries, included the whole of that part of Hampshire, which lies between the Southampton River on the east, the British Channel on the south, and the river Avon on the west. The advantages it derives from this situation, in respect to conveniency of water-carriage, are superior to those associated with any other forest in England; having in its vicinity several places for shipping timber, among which are Lymington, Beaulieu, and Redbridge; with the additional advantage of the remotest of these ports being little more than thirty miles from the dock-yard at Portsmouth, the most considerable naval arsenal in the kingdom.

That this was a woody tract previous to its complete afforestation by William the Conqueror, (of which the Domesday Book affords a most authentic proof,) may be inferred from its ancient name, *Itene*, or *Y Thene*, as well as from other circumstances. The memory of that Sovereign, however, has been unjustly calumniated on account of the formation of the New Forest, as will clearly appear from the ensuing statement, which has been partly condensed from the Topographical Remarks on Hampshire, by Mr. Warner, and partly formed from an attentive examination of the remarks of others on the same subject.

In Lambarde's Topographical Dictionary the New Forest is described in the following terms. "A large portion of Hampshire, which, after the opinion of the most and best approved historians, William the Conqueror laid to Forest, destroying townes, villages, and churches, thirty miles longe."

This is an abridgment of the first monkish accounts of the formation of the New Forest; accounts followed implicitly (but with increasing aggravations) by every annalist, and writer of English history, from the conclusion of the eleventh century to the beginning of the last; at which era Voltaire started doubts with respect to the fact of William's devastations: and another elegant writer,

(Dr. Warton,) in his "Essay on the Life and Writings of Pope," concurred with Voltaire as to the Conqueror's character being in this instance misrepresented, and his oppressions magnified. The devastation attributed to William, by some historians, has been finely versified by the above poet; and even his coloring scarcely exceeds the strong language of his prototypes.

" Proud Nimrod first the bloody chase began ;
 A mighty hunter, and his prey was man.
 Our haughty Norman boasts that barb'rous name,
 And makes his trembling slaves the royal game.
 The fields are ravish'd from th' industrious swains ;
 From men, their cities ; and from gods, their fanes :
 The levelled towns with weeds lie cover'd o'er ;
 The hollow winds through naked temples roar ;
 Round broken columns, clasping ivy twin'd ;
 O'er heaps of ruin stalk'd the stately hind ;
 The fox obscene to gaping tombs retires,
 And savage howlings fill the sacred quires."

That the picture of William's tyranny is overcharged, only a little attention is requisite to discover: and to whatever extent the afforestation by that Monarch may have been carried, there can be little hazard in declaring, that the act itself was *not* attended with those circumstances of outrage and violation which the monkish writers have so minutely detailed: the devastation of many villages, the extermination of the inhabitants, and the destruction of (according to different writers) twenty-two, thirty-six, fifty-two, or even sixty churches.*

With respect to the monkish writers, who first raised the cry of sacrilege against the Conqueror for this afforestation, we should cautiously admit their evidence in matters wherein themselves were interested. Indeed, our caution should be doubled in the present instance; since these ecclesiastics, the only biographers of William,

were

* Walter, Mapes, Hemingsford, Knyghton, &c. The singular circumstance of the Conqueror's sons, Richard and William Rufus, and his grandson Henry, all meeting their deaths in the New Forest, have greatly contributed to establish the opinion of his cruelty in forming it; these events being popularly regarded as judgments.

were his bitterest and most rancorous foes. Exasperated by injuries and contumely, which his power prevented them from revenging, they siezed the means of retaliation, to which impotence and little minds too frequently have recourse, and took every method to traduce his name, and blast his memory: magnifying each small deviation from propriety into enormous wickedness, each exertion of prerogative into unbounded tyranny; and when real sources of abuse failed, inventing excesses which never occurred, and evils that never had a being.

It is peculiarly remarkable that the author of the latter part of the Saxon Chronicle, who was indisputably contemporary with William, and who seems to have viewed his vices with a severe eye, should not take the least notice of the afforestation, nor of the cruelties said to be inflicted on its inhabitants in consequence of it. Every other memorable event of this reign he particularly relates; the total devastation of Northumberland; the compilation of the Domesday Book; the universal and formal introduction of the feudal system into the kingdom; and the fearful famine and pestilence, which other monkish writers have converted into an infliction from heaven as the punishment of William's supposed acts of tyranny. These are all circumstantially mentioned, but not a hint occurs relative to the formation of the New Forest. What is still more singular, he paints the Conqueror's passion for the chace in the warmest colors; and condemns it with the greatest severity, lamenting the excesses which the indulgence of it led him to commit; in the enumeration of which, he would most assuredly have included the remarkable one of the devastation in Hampshire, if the circumstance had reached his knowledge. May we not then fairly infer, from the silence of this accurate and impartial writer, that the *Afforestation*, which, from the authority of the Domesday Book, was incontrovertibly made by William, was effected with such little injury to the subject, and such little disturbance of social intercourse, that it was scarcely, perhaps entirely, unnoticed beyond the immediate scene of its occurrence?

It is further observable, that no particular æra is marked by these annalists at which this afforestation was made; a very extraordinary

ordinary instance of omission in writers whose chief merit is accuracy in arranging events under the years when they respectively happened. Surely so obnoxious, an exertion of power, attended with so many circumstances of tyrannical oppression; involving so large a tract of country in desolation, and such numbers of people in utter distress; and giving such a violent shock to the opinions of the age, by throwing down, without ceremony, the walls of such a number of churches; must have been generally known, and as universally execrated. Can we suppose, then, that writers who were on the watch for opportunities of loading William with blame, would not instantly have seized so striking an instance of his unfeeling tyranny; and minuted down, with the nicest accuracy, every circumstance of time, place, and manner attending it; since they must have been sensible, that these minutiae are what stamp every recorded fact with the appearance of authenticity! The destruction of so many churches would have been a noble theme for monkish declamation: and we may rest assured, that these ecclesiastics would have detailed every sacrilegious circumstance with malignant particularity. Instead, however, of these distinct notices, we have nothing but general, confused, and discordant accounts, neither specifying the period of the afforestation, nor agreeing in the number of churches destroyed. It would be a waste of time to enter into a more detailed refutation of the extravagant falsehoods detailed by these monkish writers; even the most modest of them has egregiously overstepped the line of probability in his account. In tracts of country which, (from their nature,) must have been, in ancient times, but thinly peopled, places of public worship were sparingly scattered; and one church frequently served a very extensive district. Such probably was the case in the New Forest: for if these edifices ever existed in such numbers as are said to have been destroyed, some remains of them would surely have been discovered in subsequent periods, and would even now be discoverable.

In thus vindicating the Conqueror from the extreme injustice that has been done to his memory, as to the tyranny exercised in forming the New Forest, it is by no means our intention to absolve him from all reproach respecting devastations. With the

evidence in the Domesday Book before us,* such an attempt would be inexcusable; and sufficient proof of his oppression and cruelties may be found in other records. In regard even to the New Forest, it is evident that many persons must have been dispossessed of their lands, ere such an extensive tract could have been wholly at his disposal; but yet this was no more than had been previously done in every part of the kingdom, and would therefore appear to be undeserving of *particular* reproach. On the whole, it may be fairly surmised, that William, "being passionately fond of hunting, and wishing to extend the scenes of his favorite amusement, fixed on this corner of Hampshire as a spot proper for his purpose, and accordingly converted a large proportion of it into forest: but that the afforestation was made without much injury to the subject, or offence to religion, from the scantiness of its population, and the barrenness of its surface."

That the afforestation of this district took place between the end of Edward the Confessor's reign and the time of the compilation of the Domesday Book, is evident from that invaluable record itself, in which will be found, in many instances, the contents of each field, or estate, laid into the Forest, in hides, carucates, or virgates; (terms then used in the admeasurement of land;) the names of the hundreds and villages, and of the former proprietors, (for the most part Saxon;) the rent or yearly value of each possession, and the tax paid for each to the Crown, during the reign of Edward the Confessor.

The names of many of the places having been changed since the time of the survey, it is difficult to ascertain, with precision, what were then the limits of the Forest. The oldest Perambulation extant, is dated in the 8th Edward I. This is preserved in the Chapter-house at Westminster. The boundaries there described, include all the country from Southampton river on the east, to the

Avon

* From that record it appears, that in the city of York, between the Confessor's time and the final year of the survey, (1086,) a third part of the houses had become desolate; (Domesday Book, Vol. I. folio, p. 298.) and in Ipswich; (Vol. II. p. 290.) Norwich; (Vol. II. p. 116.) Thetford; (Vol. II. p. 18.) and a great variety of other places, the same distress is recorded.

Avon on the west, following the sea-coast as the southern boundary between those rivers; and extending northwards as far as North Chardeford, or North Charford, on the west; and to Wade and Orebrugge, or Owerbridge, on the east.

Another Perambulation, made in the 29th of the same King, and now preserved in the Tower, leaves out, however, a great part of the county contained in the former; and confines the Forest to limits which appear to have been followed in the 22d of Charles II. when the Forest was again perambulated. By the *Charta de Foresta*, all lands not belonging to the Crown, which had been afforested by Henry II. Richard I. or John, were to be disafforested; but as no provision was made for the reduction of the more ancient afforestations, it is not easy to account for the great diminution of this Forest in the reign of Edward I. who was not a Prince likely to submit to any encroachments on his rights.*

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* We have here, as in most of the ensuing observations on this Forest, followed the accounts given by the Commissioners appointed by Parliament in their Reports of 1789, which, in general, are extremely accurate; but a gentleman conversant in ancient records, and with our early laws, has enabled us to reconcile the difference between the two Perambulations, by reference to the conclusion of the latter. The first is a mere entry on the back of a Plea-Roll of the Metes and Bounds of the Forest, as they were then; whereas the second is a regular Perambulation of the Forest, made by a jury sworn, under a commission from the King, and in the presence of all the officers of the Forest; who, after a most minute and particular detail of the boundaries, add, “ And the Jurors say that the aforesaid Metes and Bounds include all that was within the Forest before the Coronation of King Henry, Great-Grandfather of the King that now is; that our Lord the King has no Demesne-Wood without the said Metes; and that all the Woods, Lands, and Places, lying without the before-described Metes and Bounds, *which by this Perambulation are disafforested*, were brought within the Forest after the Time of the Coronation of the Great-Grandfather of the King; but in what Parcels, or in what Times of each Reign, the Jurors were ignorant.” This proceeding was clearly conformable to the *Charta de Foresta* referred to by the Commissioners, which was passed the 9th of Henry III.

According to the Perambulation of the 22d of Charles II. the Forest extends from Godshill on the north-west, to the sea on the south-east, about twenty miles; and from Hardley on the east, to Ringwood on the west, about fifteen miles; and contains within those limits about 92,365 statute acres. "The whole of that quantity, however, is not forest-land, or now the property of the Crown; there are several manors, and other freehold estates, within the Perambulation, belonging to individuals, to the amount of about 24,797 acres: about 625 of these are copyhold, or customary lands, belonging to His Majesty's Manor of Lyndhurst: about 1004* leasehold, under the Crown, granted for certain terms of years, and forming part of the demised land-revenue under the management of the Surveyor-General of the Crown Lands: about 901 acres are purprestures, or encroachments on the Forest: about 1193 acres are inclosed lands, held by the Master-keepers and Groom-keepers, with their respective Lodges: the remainder, being about 63,845 acres, are the woods and waste-lands of the Forest."

In each species of the property above-mentioned, the Crown has different rights or interests.

In the freeholds, the Crown preserves certain rights relative to deer and game; which rights are now of little value to the Crown; but if they could be exercised according to the ancient forest laws, might be very prejudicial to the owners of the lands.

The copyholds are subject to certain small quit-rents and fines: and the timber and trees are the property of the Crown.

The estates granted by lease are the entire property of the Crown: these are now only Cox Leaze, with Pondhead Farm, and woods adjoining, containing about 587 acres; as New Park, which was formerly in lease to an individual, is now in the possession of the Crown; and is used as a farm for furnishing hay for the deer. In these leases the timber is reserved to the Crown.

The encroachments, or purprestures, consist chiefly of cottages built by poor people, and small parcels of land adjoining. Some
encroachments

* Now reduced to 387, by the falling in of the lease of New Park,
as shown hereafter.

encroachments have, however, been made by the proprietors of neighbouring estates. These have been held without any rent or acknowledgment to the Crown: under the authority of a late Act of Parliament, the Crown is authorized to grant leases of the same for valuable considerations; and provision is made for preventing future encroachments.

The lands held with the Lodges, or the greatest part of them, which have been inclosed from time immemorial, are the entire property of the Crown, not subject to right of common, or any other claim.

The forest lands, containing 63,845 acres, are also the property of the Crown, subject to certain rights of common, of pasture, pannage, and fuel, belonging to the proprietors of estates within or adjacent to the Forest; which rights, and those of the Crown, were defined and ascertained by the Act 9th and 10th of William III. for the increase and preservation of timber in this Forest.

By this Act, the Crown was empowered to inclose six thousand acres, "to remain in severalty in the actual possession of the Crown for ever, freed and discharged from all manner of right, title, and pretence, whatever, and to be called, made, and kept, a nursery for wood and timber only." The Crown was likewise empowered, so soon as the trees, in all or any part of such inclosures, should be past danger of being hurt by cattle or deer, to throw open the same, and inclose an equal quantity in any other part of the Forest; thus keeping six thousand acres constantly inclosed as a nursery for timber. The Crown has also a right to keep deer on the uninclosed part of the Forest at all times, without limitation. By this Act also, the rights of all parties were distinctly ascertained, and no hardship or injustice was done to the neighbouring inhabitants, or proprietors of estates; for while the bill was depending, a most attentive enquiry was made not only into the condition of the Forest generally, but into the rights as well of individuals, as into those of the Crown; the abuses which prevailed, and the means of remedying them; with which view different commissions of enquiry were issued to men of knowledge and consideration, to which full and distinct answers were returned:

and it was not until after the fullest investigation on behalf of those who had claims on the Forest, that the Act was passed.

For local purposes, the New Forest is divided into nine bailiwicks, viz. Burley, Fritham, Godshill, Lynwood, Battramsley, South-East, the Nodes, Inn, and North. These bailiwicks are subdivided into fifteen walks, viz. Burley, Holmsley, Bolderwood, Eyeworth, Ashley, Broomy, Rhinefield, Wilverley, Whitley Ridge, Lady Cross, Denny and the Nodes, Ashurst, Ironshill, Castle Malwood, and Bramble Hill.

Its officers are a Lord Warden, Lieutenant, Riding Forester, Bow-bearer, two Rangers, Woodward, Under Woodward, four Verderers, High Steward, Under Steward, twelve Regarders, nine Foresters, or Master-keepers, being one to each bailiwick. And there have been usually fifteen Under Foresters, or Groom-keepers, one to each walk; but at present there are only thirteen, two of them being appointed to the keeper-ship of two walks each.

The Lord Warden is appointed by letters patent under the great seal, during his Majesty's pleasure. This officer has a general superintendence and command over the Forest in all matters relative to vert and venison; and appoints the Bow-bearer, Rangers, Steward, and all the Master-keepers and Groom-keepers to continue during his pleasure; except for the bailiwick of Burley, which has been in grant to the Bolton family for more than a century, by letters patent, renewed from time to time; and the walks of Bolderwood and Ironshill, of which grants have been very lately obtained for the lives of Prince William and Princess Sophia, the son and daughter of his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. There are granted to the Lord Warden, by his patent, the manor of Lyndhurst, and hundred of Redbridge, or New Forest Hundred, and the office of Keeper of the Decoy Ponds, with the herbage and pannage, and rents of free tenants: and he has also possession of the King's House at Lyndhurst, with an allowance of 70*l.* per annum for repairs: but that allowance has been for many years paid to a person appointed by the Lord Warden as housekeeper of the King's House, and called the Lord Warden's Steward; and the repairs are done at the charge of the Crown. The emolu-
ments

ments arising to the Lord Warden, amount to 214*l.* and to his Steward 48*l.* besides the 70*l.* before-mentioned. This Steward is also a Regarder.

The Riding Forester is appointed by letters patent during his Majesty's pleasure. His office is to ride before the King when he goes into the Forest. His salary is 500*l.* per annum, with a fee buck and doe yearly.

The Bow-bearer is appointed by the Lord Warden during his pleasure. His duty is to attend the King with a bow and arrows, when in the Forest. His salary is 40*s.* per annum, with a fee buck and doe yearly.

The Rangers are appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure. Their office is to drive the deer, which stray into the purlieu, back again into the Forest. The salary is 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum, and 4*l.* per annum in lieu of wood formerly allowed; and one fee buck and doe yearly to each Ranger.

The Woodward is appointed by letters patent from his Majesty during pleasure. He has 200*l.* per annum for himself, besides the salary of the deputy: and he also receives perquisites arising from the bark of timber assigned for repairs to the tenants of Lyndhurst manor, amounting to about 10*l.* per annum. The office of Woodward is at present wholly executed by the deputy, whose only duty has been to attend on the assigning of wood for fuel, to direct the digging of the moor-wood, (or roots of trees,) and to dispose of it, and take charge of windfall trees, and other trees or wood casually thrown down in the Forest. Such of those trees as are fit for the navy, are delivered to the Purveyor, to be sent to the Dock-yard; and navy bills for the value are issued to the High Woodward: the rest are valued by the Regarders, and sold by the Deputy Woodward, who accounts to the High Woodward, who is accountable for the whole to the Crown. The Deputy Woodward, besides a salary of 50*l.* has perquisites to the amount of about 13*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* and an assignment of four loads of fuel-wood. The present Deputy Woodward is a Regarder.

The Verderers, who are the Judges of the Swanimote and Attachment Courts, are chosen by the freeholders of the county, by

virtue of the King's writ. They have no salary, nor any emolument or perquisite, besides a fee buck and fee doe yearly.

The High Steward is appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure; has no salary or perquisites, except an old annual fee of five guineas, paid by the Lord Warden. This office may be considered as a sinecure.

The Under Steward is also appointed by the Lord Warden during pleasure. His duty is to attend at, and enroll the proceedings of, the Courts of Attachment and Swanimote. He also holds the court leet for Redbridge (or New Forest) hundred, and the courts baron for the manor of Lyndhurst. He has no salary: his emoluments depend, therefore, upon fees arising from the business of the courts, paid by individuals.

The Regarders are chosen by the freeholders of the county. Their business, as now executed, is to attend the marking of all trees to be felled; to value the timber for sale, and to attend the sales. The profits of their offices are confined to a fee of 2s. 6d. per day when on actual duty, which (varying in proportion to attendance) amounts to about 16l. per annum.

The Master Keepers and Groom Keepers' duty is to preserve the vert and venison in their respective bailiwicks and walks; to prevent any destruction of either, and all encroachments on the Forest. The Master Keepers have no salary nor perquisites, except a fee buck and doe each annually.

The salary and perquisites of the Under Keepers, which, when the investigation was made by the parliamentary commissioners in 1789, arose chiefly from deer, brouze-wood, rabbits, and swine, amounted to from 100l. to 170l. a year, have been materially diminished since that time by the brouzing having been abolished by law; and the incomes of some of them will be further most essentially affected by the determination taken to destroy the rabbits entirely; for which, however, it is naturally expected some compensation will be made.

Besides these officers, there are two others, principally concerned in what relates to the timber; the Purveyor of the Navy, acting for

for this Forest, and the Surveyor General of the Woods and Forests.

The Purveyor is a naval appointment. His duty is to assign timber for the use of the navy, and to prevent any fit for naval use from being cut for other purposes. He is paid as an officer of the Dock-yard, and has no salary nor emolument from the Forest, except eight loads of fuel-wood yearly, worth about 4l. The present Purveyor is also a Regarder.

The Surveyor General of the Woods, &c. appoints a Deputy, whose office is to execute all warrants for felling timber for the navy, or for sale of wood and timber, or executing any other works in the Forest. The emoluments of the principal were, according to the reports of the commissioners in 1789, 1l. 8s. 0d. per day (Sundays excepted) for attendance and travelling expenses, during the execution of any work in the Forest; and five per cent. on all monies received by him, on the amount of all estimates for buildings, repairs, &c. in the Forest; and on the amount of the sales of timber, wood, and bark; together with 2s. per tree, as chip-money, for all naval trees. But these are since abolished, as well in this Forest as in all others; and he has now a salary of 3000l. a year, in lieu of the whole,

The Surveyor General's Deputy in this Forest has a salary of 50l. per annum, and takes as perquisites, the old posts, pales, and rails, left on repairing the fences; five shillings a year from each of the Regarders; and one shilling per lot for every lot of timber, wood, and bark, sold in the Forest, which is paid by the purchasers. The present Deputy Surveyor is also a Regarder.

The only object of real importance to the public in any of the forests, is the increase and preservation of the timber. How far that has been attended to in the management of the New Forest, will appear on a slight consideration as to the nature of the offices, and of the manner in which they were executed. The Master Keepers seem to have considered their appointments rather as marks of distinction, than as offices of responsibility or business. The Surveyor's attention was chiefly directed to the execution of warrants from the Treasury, for raising and laying out money,

The Woodward, acting by deputy, confined himself to the inferior objects of fuel-wood, repair timber, windfall trees, and moor-wood. The Regarders were only called in occasionally for particular purposes; and several of them held other offices, incompatible with that of Regarder. The business of Purveyor was principally to prevent trees fit for the navy from being applied to any other use. The protection of the inclosures, and the preservation of the young wood and timber, must, therefore, have depended chiefly, if not altogether, on the conduct of the Groom-Keepers.

Under these circumstances, the greatest care should have been taken to allow no perquisite to those men, that could make it for their interest to do any thing that might be prejudicial to the forest; or to lead them to counteract the great public object of increasing and preserving the wood and timber: but if a keeper had performed his duty in every particular necessary for promoting that object, he would have lost a great part of his emoluments, which arose chiefly from fees for deer, profits by sale of brouze-wood, and by the breed of rabbits and swine. The mode of rewarding even the Surveyor General and Woodward, and their deputies, held out strong inducements to promote the profuse felling of the timber, but none for its increase and preservation.

The commissioners, in their reports of 1789, observe, that this mode of paying those who have the care of this valuable Forest, is certainly such as no man would adopt in the management of his own property; and that the effects of it upon the Forest appear to have been as follows.

I. That it was so much overstocked with deer, that many died yearly of want in the winter; and not less than 300 died in one walk only in the winter of 1787.

II. That great waste and destruction was made of the hollies and thorns which afforded the best nursery and protection for young trees: and much more wood, and of a larger size than was necessary or proper for brousing, was cut by the keepers under that pretence, to increase their own profits.

III. That the breed of rabbits was encouraged by several of the keepers, but particularly in the two walks of Wilverley and Rhinefield, where three inclosures, made for the growth of timber, had

been converted into warrens by the under keepers, insomuch that in two of them, containing about 611 acres, there was not one young tree; and in the third, containing 224 acres, only a very small number.

IV. That some of the keepers dealt largely in swine, which were suffered to remain in the Forest at all seasons.

V. That the fences of the inclosures made for nurseries of timber, were neglected; and, for want of repairing slight defects when they happened, often required large and expensive repairs; but were in general in such bad condition, as to keep out neither deer, horses, cattle, nor swine.

VI. That the lodges were repaired often, and at great charge, but never substantially, or in a workman-like manner.

VII. That the salutary provisions of the act of the 9th and 10th of William III. were almost wholly disregarded in many other respects.

The different surveys taken in 1608, 1707, 1764, and 1783, (the particulars of which are stated in the reports of the commissioners before alluded to,) not only shew the quantity of timber in the Forest at the times when they were taken, but afford the strongest proof of the opposite effects of the attention formerly bestowed on the management of the Royal Forests, and of the neglect and relaxation which took place at subsequent periods. This neglect appears to have arisen from a concurrence of various causes. When the first of these surveys was made, the landed property of the Crown was the chief fund at the disposal of government; great attention was therefore given to it; and though the Forest laws were liable to many objections, yet that system was better calculated for the protection of the Forests, than the customs which have since obtained.

The attention bestowed on the Forests was suspended by the contest between Charles the First and his Parliament; during the continuance of which, the trees in almost every one of the Royal Forests were, by one party or the other, disposed of or destroyed.*

Soon

* The same has happened in France, and to an immense extent; the effects of which must soon be felt, both with respect to building, to fuel, and to the navy.

Soon after the Restoration, the attention of Government was again directed to the Forests; which is evinced by various Reports and Commissions of Enquiry: but though, by means of that attention, the abuses in the New Forest received some check, yet, as the greatest part of the trees had been felled, the fences of the ancient coppices destroyed, and the deer and cattle every where admitted, it was found impossible to restore the Forest to its former condition without the aid of Parliament.

The act of 9th and 10th William III. was accordingly obtained; and if the powers vested in the Crown had been duly exercised, 30,000 acres of land, formerly bare, might now have been covered with trees from one hundred years of age downward, in addition to the former woodlands in the Forest. But unfortunately, in a very few years after passing that act, the care formerly bestowed on the Forests was discontinued; the superintendence of the Surveyor General of the Crown Lands ceased; and the whole fell, by degrees, under the sole direction of a Surveyor General of the Woods, a single officer, under no effectual check or controul, receiving no official books nor records from his predecessors, nor obliged to leave any to those who succeeded him; so that no regular system of management could have been expected or practised: each new surveyor entered on his office without direction or precedent, and adopted such new plan as suited his fancy or convenience.

This defective system, however, has lately been much improved, but has not been entirely amended. An attempt was, indeed, made to carry into effect, by a bill, all the important suggestions of the parliamentary Commissioners a few years after their final report was made: this passed the House of Commons without opposition, but was lost in its last stage in the House of Lords, in a very late period of the session, on a petition of three or four respectable individuals, having rights, on the Forest and estates in its neighbourhood.

This having failed, another bill, respecting this Forest, was brought in, and passed, in the year 1800; from which it is presumed considerable benefits may be derived. Browsing or feeding the deer with the young branches of the trees, (under color of which

great

great abuses were committed, as already stated,) is entirely put a stop to; the limits of the Forest are ascertained with accuracy, and disputed boundaries are settled. The Forest Courts are now regularly held by the Verderers, who preside in them, and who are vested with new and extended authorities, under the act for preventing waste as well as encroachments: and it is understood to be intended, that immediate and effectual means shall be taken for the entire destruction of the rabbits (the greatest of all enemies to the growth of woods) with which at present the Forest is, in many parts of it, over-run. An arrangement has also been made, not only for substituting a fixed salary, as already observed, for the Surveyor General, in lieu of the fees he formerly had, and which operated as a bounty on the destruction of timber; but likewise for establishing a fixed office for him, wherein all books and papers are to be preserved, and proceedings recorded. We may therefore hope that effectual measures will be taken as well for the preservation of the timber now growing, as for a future increase; and that this Forest will become, what it ought to have been long ago, a source of national defence, by furnishing an abundant, instead of a very scanty supply, of timber for our navy.

The quantity of timber actually delivered for naval purposes, from the year 1761 to 1786, was 23,000 loads of oak, and 7003 loads of beech, as appears by the commissioners' reports in 1789: the average quantity, therefore, must be about 885 loads of oak, and 270 loads of beech. In the same reports it is also stated, that the number of deer killed annually, is about seventy-six brace of bucks, and seventeen brace of does; a few of which are sent to His Majesty's larder, and the great officers of the Crown; the remainder are distributed in fees to the forest officers, and to the proprietors of neighbouring estates, by way of compensation for the damage sustained by them from the deer trespassing on their lands.

The encroachments made on the Forest are always on its outskirts, or contiguous to some hamlet, where a hut can be raised, and a patch of ground inclosed for a garden, without any, or but little observation. These inclosures are frequently thrown down by the

Under Keepers; but to remove a house, of which possession has been taken, requires a legal process; and the trespasser is therefore extremely assiduous in rearing his cottage, and getting into it. "I have known," observes Mr. Gilpin, when speaking of the New Forest, in his Remarks on Forest Scenery, "all the materials of one of these habitations brought together—the house built—covered in—the goods removed—a fire kindled—and the family in possession, in the course of a moon-light night."* Many of these little

* Vol. II. p. 39. The many advantages, continues this author, "which the Borderers on Forests enjoy, such as rearing cattle and hogs, obtaining fuel at an easy rate, and procuring little patches of land for the trouble of inclosing it, would add much, one should imagine, to the comfort of their lives: but, in fact, it is otherwise; these advantages procure them not half the enjoyments of common day-labourers. In general, they are an indolent race, poor and wretched in the extreme: instead of having the regular returns of a week's labour to subsist on, too many of them depend on the precarious supply of forest pilfer. Their ostensible business is commonly to cut furze, and carry it to the neighbouring brick-kilns; for which purpose they keep a team or two or three forest-horses; while their collateral support is deer-stealing, poaching, and purloining timber. In this last occupation they are said to have been so expert, that, in a night's time, they would have cut down, carried off, and lodged safely in the hands of some receiver, one of the largest oaks of the forest: but the depredations which have been made in timber along all the skirts of the forest, have rendered this species of theft, at present, but an unprofitable employment. In poaching, and deer-stealing, they often find their best account; in all the arts of which many of them are well practised. From their earliest youth they learn to set the trap, and the gin, for hares and pheasants; to insnare deer, by hanging hooks, baited with apples, from the boughs of trees; and (as they become bolder proficient) to watch the herd with fire-arms, and single out a fat buck, as he passes the place of their concealment.

"I had once some occasional intercourse with a Forest-borderer, who had formerly been a noted deer-stealer. He had often, like the deer-stealer in the play,

——— struck a doe,
And borne it cleanly by the keeper's nose.

Indeed,

little tenements have been so long occupied, and have passed through so many families, that they are now effectually secured as private property.

The *Scenery* of the New Forest affords as great a variety of beautiful landscape, perhaps, as can be met with in any part of England of similar extent. "Its woody scenes, its extended lawns, and vast sweeps of wild country, unlimited by artificial boundaries, together with its river views, and distant coasts, are all in a great degree magnificent. It must still, however, be remembered, that its chief characteristic, and what it rests on for distinction, is not *sublimity*, but *sylvan beauty*. Its lawns and woods are every where divided by large districts of heath: many of these woods have formerly been, as many of the heaths at present are, of vast extent; running several miles without interruption. Different parts too, both

Indeed, he had been at the head of his profession; and during a reign of five years, assured me he had killed, on an average, not fewer than a hundred bucks a year. At length he was obliged to abscond; but composing his affairs, he abjured his trade, and would speak of his former arts without reserve. He has oftener than once, confessed the sins of his youth to me; from which an idea may be formed of the mystery of deer-stealing, in its highest mode of perfection. In his excursions in the Forest, he carried with him a gun, which screwed into three parts, and which he could easily conceal in the lining of his coat. Thus armed, he would drink with the Under-Keepers without suspicion; and when he knew them engaged, would securely take his stand in some distant part, and mark his buck. When he had killed him, he would draw him aside into the bushes, and spend the remaining part of the day in a neighbouring tree, that he might be sure no spies were in the way. At night he secreted his plunder. He had boarded off a part of his cottage, (forming a rough door into it, like the rest of the partition, stuck full of false nail-heads,) with such artifice, that the keepers, on an information, have searched his house again and again, and have gone off satisfied with his innocence; though his secret larder, perhaps, at that very time, contained a brace of bucks. He had always, he said, a quick market for his venison; for the country is as ready to purchase it, as these fellows are to procure it. It is a forest adage of ancient date, *non est inquirendum unde venit venison.*" Ibid, p. 40—44.

both of the open and of the woody country, are so high as to command extensive distances; though no part can in any degree assume the title of mountainous.* Besides the heaths, lawns, and woods, of which the Forest is composed, there are in some parts extensive bogs; the most considerable of these is at the place called Longslade Bottom, in the road between Brokenhurst and Ringwood; it extends about three miles, and is the common receptacle of all the springs that rise in its vicinity.† The most interesting part of the Forest, in a picturesque point of view, is that confined between the Beaulieu River and the Bay of Southampton: the water views are very grand; and the banks, both of the River and the Bay, being richly decorated with woody scenery, give them a peculiarly beautiful character. In noble distances, and what may be more appropriately termed, grand forest scenes, the northern division of this tract is the most striking.

Though the *Horses* of the New Forest are in general private property, there is a diminutive breed, that exists in a wild state; and whose ideas of liberty are so unconfined, from pasturing in so wide a range that, to take them is frequently a business of great difficulty. Sometimes they are hunted down by horsemen, who relieve each other; and, at other times, caught with a rope and a noose. In the more desolate parts of the Forest, there is also a kind of wild *Hog*, which is very different from the usual Hampshire

* Remarks on Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 49, 52.

† In landscape, observes Mr. Gilpin, "the bog is of little prejudice: it has, in general, the appearance of common verdure; but the traveller must be upon his guard. These tracts of deceitful ground are often dangerous to such as leave the beaten roads, and traverse the paths of the Forest. A horse-track is not always the clue of security: it is, perhaps, only beaten by the little Forest-horse, which will venture into a bog in quest of better herbage; and his lightness secures him a place, where a larger horse, under the weight of a rider, would flounder. If the traveller, therefore, meet with a horse-path, pointing into a swamp, even though he should observe it to emerge on the opposite side, he had better relinquish it. The only track he can prudently follow, is that of wheels."

shire breed, and has many of the distinguishing characteristics of the wild boar. *Asses* and *Mules* are likewise bred in the Forest in great numbers.

The *Oaks* of the New Forest are mentioned, by Mr. Gilpin, as having a character peculiar to themselves. They seldom rise into lofty stems, he observes, as oaks usually do in richer soils; but their branches, which are more adapted to what the ship-builders call knees and elbows, are commonly twisted into the most picturesque forms. This peculiarity is supposed to arise from the roots having to pierce through a rocky stratum, or hard gravelly bed; which obliging them to take a zig-zag course, occasions their branches to assume a kind of correspondent direction. Many of these oaks are very ancient, and of great bulk.*

The

* To the many instances of the prodigious size which oaks attain, recorded in Evelyn's *Sylva*, and other works, may be added another from the New Forest. In Langley Wood, belonging to the Bishop of Salisbury, an *Oak* was felled in the year 1758, which had 300 rings of annual growth, and whose trunk was thirty-six feet in circumference just above the ground: it did not, however, exceed twenty feet in height; but was full six feet in diameter at top, and perfectly sound. Its massive branches, consisting principally of knees and crooks fit for naval purposes, extended nearly forty feet each way. This tree was felled in an unusual manner for the preservation of its crooks, which were cut off one by one whilst the tree was standing, and were lowered by tackling, to prevent their being injured. The two largest arms were sawn off at such distances from the trunk, as to form the most capital *first-rate* knees. Scaffolds were then erected; and two pit saws being braced together, the body was first cut across half through at the bottom, and then sawn down the middle, between the two stumps of arms that had been left: at the end of one stood a perpendicular bow, larger than most timber trees; to prevent this being injured, a bed of some hundreds of faggots was placed to break its fall. This half was so weighty, that it crushed a new timber carriage to pieces the instant it came upon it. The King's carriage was then sent purposely from Portsmouth, to assist in conveying it to the Dock-yard: it was drawn by twelve horses, occasionally aided by eight others, the shortest way to the sea-side; and was by sea conveyed to Portsmouth. This tree was, in the first place
sold

The CADENHAM OAK, so called from its being situated near the village of that name, is regarded as one of the curiosities of the New Forest, it having long been famous for its premature vegetation, its buds appearing every year in the depth of winter. The tree stands at a very short distance from the road, near a small inclosure, and in summer, has nothing to distinguish it from the surrounding oaks. After the buds have unfolded themselves, they make no further progress, as the leaves immediately shrink from the season, and die. During the remainder of the winter, the tree continues torpid, like other deciduous trees, but again vegetates at the usual season. The unusually early germination of this tree, like that of the Glastonbury thorn, is, by the superstition of the foresters, attributed to the influence of *Old Christmas-Day*; and it has certainly been ascertained, that in some years, the leaves have not appeared till the morning of that day.* it is, however, equally clear, that they have been known to shoot forth both earlier and later, according to the mildness or rigor of the season. It is supposed, that other oaks in this Forest have the same property of early germination, as the Cadenham tree is in so much repute, and “resorted to annually by so many visitants, that it could not easily supply them all, without some foreign contributions.” The species of oak that has this property, is most probably the *Quercus sempervirens*.

Another celebrated *Oak* of this Forest, and noted also for its premature vegetation, was formerly standing at Canterton, near Stony Cross, a little to the north of Castle Malwood, and traditionally said to be the very tree against which the arrow glanced that was shot by Tyrrel, and caused the death of William Rufus.

This

sold for 40l. it was next purchased by a Mr. White, of Anville, for 100l. and he is supposed to have cleared by it at least 100l. more; as the contents, in which were thirty-two loads, at half-a-crown per foot, (no unusual price for naval crooks,) amounted to 200l. The faggots were more than sufficient to defray incidental expenses.

* See Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 168, note; and Shaw's Western Tour, p. 486.

This tree had become so decayed and mutilated about sixty years ago, that the late Lord Delawar, to preserve the remembrance of the spot, had a triangular stone erected, about five feet high, and inscribed thus:

Here stood the Oak-Tree, on which an Arrow, shot by Sir WALTER TYRRELL at a Stag, glanced, and struck King WILLIAM II. surnamed RUFUS, on the Breast, of which he instantly died, on the Second Day of August, anno 1100.

King WILLIAM II. surnamed RUFUS, being slain, as before related, was laid in a Cart belonging to one Purkiss,* and drawn from hence to Winchester, and buried in the Cathedral Church of that City.

Anno 1745.

That where an Event so memorable had happened, might not be hereafter unknown, this Stone was set up by John, Lord Delawar, who had seen the Tree growing in this Place.

It must be observed, that the real circumstances attending the death of Rufus, are involved in some obscurity; as several of our early historians say not a word of any tree being accessory to his fall. Eadmer says only, that he was shot through the heart: Symeon Dunelmensis, and Hoveden, say, by an arrow incautiously directed, *sagitta incaute directa*. Matthew Paris, whose account is followed by Speed, is the first who affirms that the King's heart was pierced by an arrow obliquely glancing from a tree: "*Exiit ergo telum, et obstante arbore in obliquum reflexum faciens medium cordis regem sauciavit.*" Alanus de Insulis is quoted by Baxter, to prove that Tyrrel was engaged to shoot Rufus by Anselm, the

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Pope's

* His descendants, and of the same name, now live close to the spot in a neat cottage; and, according to the tradition of the country, have never been sufficiently rich to keep a complete team, nor poor enough to apply for parish relief, since the event thus commemorated.

Pope's Legate; and the deed itself is extolled by Alanus, who, in the reign of Henry the First, was promoted to the Divinity Chair at Paris, as *pulcherrimum facinus*.*

The spot where Rufus fell, is by Leland called *Thorougham*; but no place of that name is remembered. Mr Gilpin imagines it might be what is now called Fritham, and which is at no great distance from the spot pointed out by tradition, as the scene of the King's death. "This is a sweet, sequestered bottom, open to the west, where the corner of a heath sinks gently into it; but sheltered on the east by a beechen grove, and on every other side by clumps of trees, forming an irregular screen around it; among which are several winding avenues of greensward."

The area of CASTLE MALWOOD contains many acres: some oaks and beeches grow on its banks, which are not very great: its Keep is occupied by one of the Lodges belonging to the Forest. CASTLE MALWOOD COTTAGE is the seat of A. Drummond, Esq. The situation is high, and the views from it are very extensive.

LYNDHURST, a small village, beautifully situated, has, from the era of the formation of the New Forest, been considered as a sort of capital to it; and here was exercised the jurisdiction of the Chief Justice in Eyre for this Forest, so long as he continued to exercise it, of which there is no trace subsequent to the reign of Charles the Second. All the Forest Courts under the jurisdiction of the Verderers, are still held here; as well those of Attachment, &c. as the Swanimote; the former are held on such days as the presiding Judges appoint, three times in a year; the latter, on the fourteenth of September annually. The *King's House*, in this village, though but an indifferent residence, is occupied by the Lord Warden whenever he visits the Forest. An ancient *Stirrup* is preserved here, said to have been used by William Rufus, at the time he was shot by Sir Walter Tyrrel. The *King's Stables* are very large, and were probably considered as magnificent when first erected, which appears to have been about the time of Charles the Second.

About one mile west from Lyndhurst is CUFFNELLS, the pleasant residence of the Right Honorable George Rose. Situated near the
centre

* Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. I. p. 132.

centre of the New Forest, it possesses many peculiar advantages of scenery; and from its bold irregularity of surface being finely adorned by majestic oaks, and noble beech trees, composes some charming landscapes; which, whether contemplated in the fore-ground, in the middle distance, or in the more remote horizon, cannot fail to gratify the eye of taste. When the late Mr. Emes was called in to exercise his art of landscape gardening on this spot, he found that Nature had nearly superseded his intended operations, and was obliged to confine himself to a few plantations and walks in the vicinity of the House: these, however, are disposed with taste, and are creditable to his professional judgment.

The House stands on a rising ground, embosomed with trees, and is calculated more for internal convenience, and domestic comfort, than splendor. It was the property of the late Sir Thomas Tancred, of whose heirs this estate was purchased, about twenty years ago, by Mr. Rose, who has greatly embellished the place, and made very considerable additions to the Mansion. The south front* is formed by a Drawing-Room, thirty-six feet by twenty-four; the Library, forty-two feet by twenty-four; a handsome Vestibule; and the *Conservatory*: the latter is filled with a choice assemblage of indigenous and exotic plants, and, from its size and construction, is much admired. It communicates, by large folding doors, with the *Library*, which is supposed to contain one of the most valuable collections of books belonging to any private gentleman in the kingdom. They came into the possession of Mr. Rose from the late Earl of Marchmont, who died in 1792; and to whom Mr. Rose was sole executor. A whole length portrait of the Earl, in his robes, as worn at the Coronation, is intended to be placed over the chimney in this apartment. In the Drawing-Room is a half length of SARAH, Duchess of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; given, by her Grace, to the Earl, who was one of her executors. In this Mansion is also an original picture of WILLIAM THE THIRD, with whom Sir Patrick Hume, afterwards

M 2

created

* This front, with the west end, and the fine grove of oaks that shelters and adorns the north side of the house, is represented in the annexed Print.

created Earl of Marchmont* by this Sovereign, returned to England; and a few other original portraits of intimate friends of the late Earl, who were remarkable as statesmen, or authors: among them

* The events in the life of this very zealous patriot, and eminent statesman, were various and extraordinary. From his first election into the Scotch Parliament, in the year 1665, he distinguished himself by an active and able opposition to the encroachments made on the liberties of his country, and for which he suffered close imprisonment under the oppressive government of that day. Obtaining his release, he retired to Holland, but returned to Scotland in the year 1685, with the Earl of Argyle, with whom, and others, he contended in arms against the forces of James the Second; but being unsuccessful, he sought refuge in the burial vault of his own Parish Church at Polwarth. Immured in this dismal recess, he continued more than two wintry months, deriving his whole nourishment from the hands of a faithful daughter. At length he effected his escape, sailed for France, and, to avoid detection, assumed the character of a travelling physician, in his journey to Bourdeaux, whence he proposed to embark for Holland, where he at length arrived, and experienced a most cordial reception from the Prince of Orange, with whom he returned to his native land in 1688. Preference rapidly followed; he was created a peer, made Lieutenant Chancellor of Scotland, a Commissioner of the Treasury, &c. The late Earl of Marchmont, and last of this family, was no less eminent for his talents and patriotism than his grandfather, though, from the altered character of the times, they were manifested in a different manner. When Lord Polwarth, he was one of the most active, able and eloquent opponents to Sir Robert Walpole's administration. In this opposition, he ranked among his friends and partizans, Mr. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham; Sir William Wyndham; Mr. Pulteney, afterwards Earl of Bath; Mr. afterwards Lord Lyttleton; and other eminent men. On the death of his father, he was raised to the House of Lords, where he was equally distinguished, and admired. To his persevering exertions (under the encouragement of his Majesty) the country is principally indebted for the publication of the Records of Parliament from the earliest period to his own time. His Lordship died in 1792. Mr. Pope, to whom he was executor, commemorated his name by an inscription in his own grotto at Twickenham; and Lord Cobham honored his bust with a niche in the "Temple of Friendship," at Stowe. See *Beauties*, Vol. I. p. 299.

them are those of POPE, by Richardson; LORD BOLINGBROKE; SIR WILLIAM WYNNDHAM; and the late EARL OF CHATHAM. Mr. Rose has been honored by two visits from their Majesties, and the Royal Family, who spent a few days at Cuffnells in the years 1801, and 1804.

BROKENHURST, a very pleasant village, of Saxon origin, is recorded, in the Domesday Book, by the name of *Broceste*; and is there also said to have a *Church*, which edifice is yet standing, though somewhat disguised by subsequent alterations. The arch over the southern door-way is ornamented with the zig-zag moulding; and the descent into the Church, both at the south side, and the west end, is by several steps. The *Font* is a very antique and curious piece of workmanship; and was evidently formed when the custom of total immersion was prevalent. The site of the Church is an artificial bank of earth, between four and five feet high, and about fifty or sixty yards in diameter; this appears to have been raised, that the Church might become more conspicuous to the adjacent country; as the village lies in a bottom, and was, in ancient times, completely embosomed in wood. In the Church-Yard is a very old and venerable *Oak*, measuring upwards of eight yards in diameter; and also a noble *Yew-tree*, more than sixty feet high, and fifteen feet in girth. In the twelfth century, a carucate of land in Brokenhurst, was held, by an ancestor of Sir Henry Spelman, by the service "of finding an Esquire, with a hambergell, or coat of mail, for forty days in England; and of finding *Litter* for the *King's Bed*, and *Hay* for the *King's Palfrey*, when the King should lie at Brokenherst."

BROKENHURST HOUSE, the residence of Theophilus Foulks, Esq. is a handsome modern building, standing in a pleasant Park, and commanding a very grand and picturesque view, in which "both the fore-ground, and the distance, are complete. The former is an elevated Park scene, consisting of great variety of ground; well planted, and descending gently into the plain below. Among the trees which adorn it, are a few of the most venerable oaks of the Forest, probably of an age long prior to the Conquest. From this grand fore-ground is presented an extensive Forest

view. It consists of a wide range of flat pasturage, garnished with tufted clumps, and woody promontories shooting into it, and, contrasted by immense woods, which occupy all the rising grounds above it, and circle the horizon. The contrast between the open and woody parts of the distance, and the grandeur of each part, are in the highest style of picturesque beauty.* This estate is the property of the infant son of the late John Morant, Esq. WATCOMBE HOUSE, in Brokenhurst Park, was for three years the residence of the philanthropic *Howard*, whose memory is still cherished in the hearts of the poor inhabitants.

Over the heath called *Sway Common*, to the south-west of Brokenhurst, various TUMULI, or barrows, are scattered; several of which have been opened by the Rev. Mr. Warner, who supposes them to have been constructed about the time when the Britons, under Natanleod, or Ambrosius,† and the Saxons, under Cerdic, were contending for empire. This conjecture is strengthened by the circumstance of a rude earth-work on the Lymington river, being still called *Ambrose-Hole*, and by the historical evidence of several battles having been fought by Ambrosius in this part of the country.‡ Several of the barrows are situated within the area of an Entrenchment, on the brow of a hill, a few hundred yards to the south-east of a wood, called Setley-Wood. “Two of these,” observes Mr. Warner,§ “probably cover the remains of chieftains, since considerable labor and care have evidently been exerted in their formation. They have each a regular fosse and vallum: the mound, or tumulus, is composed of a part of the earth taken from the fosse; another portion of it forms the surrounding vallum. It is evident that these barrows were raised at the same time, since they

* Gilpin on Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 63.

† Both Camden and Archbishop Usher, imagine Ambrosius and Natanleod to be the same person; the former being his Roman, and the latter his British name.

‡ Gough's Camden, Vol. I. p. 115.

§ Topographical Remarks, Vol. I. p. 72.

they are connected together, and have only a single vallum at the point of their junction. I paced the fosse of each, and found the larger to measure 110 yards; the smaller ninety-five yards. A short distance to the south of these is another barrow, of a similar construction, and standing entirely alone. This, and one of the two connected with each other, I opened in company with the Rev. W. Jackson, Vicar of Christ-Church. Large quantities of burnt earth, and parcels of wood, reduced by fire to charcoal, were found in each; but, after searching with great attention, removing all the factitious earth, and digging to a considerable depth below the surface of the natural land, we were convinced that simply burning the body, and covering its ashes with mould, had been the mode observed in these instances of inhumation. These tumuli, then, I refer to the Saxons; and I think it will be allowed, I have authority for so doing, when it is considered, that the German tribes seldom, if ever, used *urn-burial*.*

The other barrows, which lie about half a mile to the southward, and due west from the New Inn on the Lyndhurst road, Mr. Warner ascribes to the Britons. In two of them, which he opened, each about four feet high, and fifteen feet in diameter, the appearances were similar. They were both formed of a white gravel, mixed with loose sand; piercing through this to the depth of four feet, a quantity of black earth was found, which had evidently suffered the action of fire, and among it were large parcels of wood ashes. On removing this, and digging below the surface of the natural land, a cell, or excavation, was perceived, about two feet square, that had been formed in the bed of gravel which lies immediately under the surface, for the reception of an urn. In one of the barrows, the urn was in a perfect state, but was broken by the carelessness of a workman before it could be taken out. It was composed of unbaked clay; its form was very clumsy, and its workmanship rude. Within it were ashes, and small human bones, in a state of calcination, mixed with an earth of the texture and consistence of peat. The urn in the second barrow, which

* Tacitus de Mor. Germ.—Lelandi Assertio Arturii, p. 44.

was situated in a more moist spot, had been resolved into its original clay.

About three quarters of a mile from Lymington, on the north, are the remains of a Roman Camp, called *Castle Field*, or more generally BUCKLAND RINGS; though very improperly, as the form is rectangular. "Its situation is on an elevated spot of ground, higher than any part of the surrounding country; enjoying a most extensive prospect. At the distance of 150 yards from its eastern extremity, flows the Lymington River, which the Camp overlooks and commands. Its form is a long square; and the dimensions of the *valla* and *fossæ*, accord precisely with those mentioned by Hyginus, Polybius, and Vegetius, as used by the Romans on similar occasions. Its four sides stood exactly east, west, north, and south; and on the three existing ones, (for the easternmost was purposely levelled about fifty years ago,) traces of the *portæ*, or entrances, are still to be discerned." The north, south and east sides of this Camp were defended by treble ditches and ramparts; on the west side, the works were only double. The area is about 800 yards in circumference: its length on the north side, 200 yards; its length on the south side, 210 yards; its breadth towards the west, 125 yards; its breadth towards the east, 135 yards. The perpendicular height of the inner vallum is about eight feet, measuring from the area; the breadth of the principal ditch, from the tops of the contiguous ramparts, is about forty yards. Only three sides of this Camp are now perfect, the other having been levelled between sixty and seventy years ago. This Camp is supposed to have been formed by Vespasian, about the period that he conquered the Isle of Wight. "The inquisitive eye," says Mr. Warner, "may still discern in a morass, which runs in a right angle from the western side of the river, nearly to the foot of the entrenchment, the traces of a cut, or dock, evidently connected with the work; which, though in the lapse of ages, it has been entirely choaked up, and converted into a swamp, yet probably was sufficiently deep, in Vespasian's time, to receive the largest of the Roman gallies."* About two miles to the south-east,

* Topographical Remarks, &c. Vol. I. p. 60.

east, on the opposite side of the river, is a high artificial mount, supposed to have been a *Speculum*, or Watch Tower, to this Camp; and commanding a very extensive view over the Isle of Wight, the Channel, and the adjacent country.

LYMINGTON,

A SMALL market town, of remote but unknown origin, is situated on the declivity of a gently-rising ground, on the western bank of the Lymington River, about a mile from its confluence with the Sea. From a consideration of local circumstances, Mr. Warner imagines that a town or village was formed near this spot by the Britons.* That the Romans were acquainted with it is evinced, by the contiguity of Buckland Rings, and by the evidence of Roman coins, nearly 200 pounds weight of which, of the Lower Empire, were discovered here in two urns, in the year 1744. A brass coin of Tetricus, sen. Rev. LARTITIA AVGG. found hereabouts, is also mentioned by Mr. Gough, as being in his own possession.†

In the Domesday Book, Lymington occurs under the name of *Lentune*. When that survey was taken, the manor belonged to Rogerius, or Roger de Yvery, the founder of the illustrious house of Yvery, who had accompanied the Conqueror to England. Roger, his son, was a soldier of considerable talent; but having joined in an unsuccessful insurrection against William Rufus, he was obliged to quit the kingdom; and his possessions escheated to the Crown. In the reign of Henry the First, Lymington, together with the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, the borough of Christ Church, and other lands in this county, were granted to Richard de Repariis, or Redvers, a powerful and opulent Baron, who had been a steady adherent to the fortune of that Monarch. In this family it continued till the reign of Edward the Second, when it was released to that King by Isabella de Fortibus, the heiress, together

* Topographical Remarks on Hampshire, Vol. I. 41

† Additions to Camden, Vol. I.

together with the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, and all her other possessions in Hampshire. The validity of the deed was questioned by the next heir, Hugh de Courtney, Baron of Oakhampton; but his claim was annulled by the Parliament. This manor, however, appears to have been afterwards returned to the Baron, as it was numbered with his other estates at the period of his decease. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, it again fell to the Crown, on the decapitation of Henry Courtney, Earl of Devonshire.

Very few local events are recorded of this town; though tradition affirms, that it has been *thrice* burnt by the French; and saved only a fourth time* from undergoing the like fate, by the prudent conduct and fortitude of a woman. The distinctive epithets, *Old* and *New*, applied to different parts of the town, appear, in a certain degree, to countenance these popular relations.

Whatever may be the antiquity of Lymington, it does not seem to have attained any considerable importance, till it became the property of Baron de Redvers; when a "port being established, the wines of France, and other foreign commodities, were unshipped at its quays."† It also became famous for its SALT WORKS;‡ though this manufacture is, with great probability, supposed to have been carried on here at a much earlier period, and probably by the Britons; as large quantities of wood ashes have often been found near the site of the present works;§ which are situated on the borders of the Sea-shore, at a little distance from the town, and extend nearly three miles in a south-west direction.

Here

* Warner's Topographical Remarks, Vol. I. p. 34.

† Warner, from Rot. Parl. 3 Edward I.

‡ In the year 1145, a tithe of the salt manufactured at Lymington, was granted, by Richard de Redvers, to the Abbey of Quarre, in the Isle of Wight.

§ The British method of obtaining salt, as appears from Strabo, L. IV. p. 197, was to set fire to a number of trees, heaped together, and when the mass was reduced to charcoal, to pour on it a certain quantity of sea-water, which produced a concretion somewhat similar to salt.

Here is still the most considerable manufacture of *marine* salt (so called from its being made of sea-water) of any upon this coast. The process of making the salt is very simple. The water is pumped, by means of wind-mills, into large ponds close to the shore, which communicate with several smaller, of a square form, shaped with great exactness, three to four inches in depth, and forty to fifty feet broad. The water is let into these ponds (or brine-pans) during the summer months, and remains exposed to the sun four or five days, which causing a considerable evaporation, it becomes a strong saline liquor, of a bitter taste, denominated *brine*; this is conveyed into wooden cisterns, or tanks, adjoining the work, or building, in which are commonly from two to six iron pans, (often more,) of a square form, eight inches deep, and eighteen feet in breadth, for the purpose of boiling the brine; by which simple operation (with the aid of a small quantity of seasoning, composed chiefly of butter) it becomes in the course of eight hours, a hard grained salt, fit for the table. When taken out of these boilers, it is put into wooden troughs to cool, having apertures in the bottom, through which drains a liquor called *bitters*, or *bittern*, from which the medicinal salts, Epsom and Glauber, are made during the winter season, when the stock of brine (which can only be procured in the summer) is exhausted. The fires for boiling the common salt, are lighted in the month of May, and are seldom put out till September.

The average quantity of common salt annually made during the last seven years, was five thousand tons, of which two thousand tons have been exported chiefly to America, and of medicinal salt, one hundred and forty tons. There are about forty works now standing, of which only *the half* are in use, giving employment to eighty men and boys. The whole is principally under the direction of Mr. St. Barbe. From the foregoing circumstance, it is obvious how much the manufacture has decreased; this has gradually taken place within the last thirty years. The cause of the diminution in the produce of this article, is occasioned by the manufacturer not being able to render it so cheap as the mineral salt generally used throughout the kingdom; and which arises from

from the coal, of which fifty-four chaldrons are consumed in boiling one hundred tons of salt, being subject to a duty here, which is not paid by the manufacturer of mineral salt in the northern part of the kingdom, who receives the coal from the pit's mouth overland.

In regard to quality, the grain is larger and coarser than the mineral salt; but it possesses a much stronger saline property than the latter, and is therefore undoubtedly better calculated for the purpose of curing animal food. The intrinsic price, or value, of one bushel, is only one shilling before the duty is paid, which is ten shillings the bushel. The repeal of such a heavy tax upon this very necessary article, has been in contemplation; and it hardly admits a doubt, that such a measure would prove salutary, as tending to the relief and comfort of the poorer classes.

The *Church* at Lynnington divides the *old* from the *new* part of the High Street; and though originally a regular pile, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a spire in the centre, is now become extremely informal, through different alteration. The only sepulchral memorials worth noticing, is a tablet surmounted with a fine bust, by Rysbrach, to the memory of CHARLES COLBORNE, Esq. who died in May, 1747; and a neat mural monument, with a bas-relief of shipping, by Bacon, in commemoration of JOSIAS ROGERS, Esq. who died in the year 1795, Captain of the Quebec frigate.

In the reign of Edward the Third, Lynnington was summoned as a borough to send representatives to Parliament; yet it does not appear to have complied with this precept till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth. In the reign of James the First, it was incorporated by charter, and from that period the returns have been regular. The right of election is vested in the Mayor and Burgesses: the number of voters is about eighty. The number of houses, as returned under the late Act, was 492; that of inhabitants, 2378.

The situation of Lynnington on the banks of a navigable river, so nearly contiguous to the sea, is extremely favorable for its trade; but this advantage was formerly much greater than at present, as, by the injudicious construction of a dam, or causeway,

to the north of the town, the depth of the river has been considerably lessened, and its channel gradually contracted by the accumulation of mud deposited by the tides, and which had previously been carried off by the freshes. The causeway was made about seventy years ago, before which, vessels of upwards of 500 tons burthen could be brought up to the quay; though now the water will scarcely allow a vessel of 300 tons to be navigated to the same place.* The scenery on the banks of the Lymington river is very beautiful; and particularly so at full tides.

Between two and three miles to the north from Lymington, on the opposite bank of the river, is **BOLDRE**, an ancient village, recorded in the Domesday Book, by the name of *Bovreford*. The Church was in existence at the beginning of the twelfth century, and still displays some interesting specimens of its original architecture, though some parts of it have been altered at subsequent periods. The north aisle appears to have been added about the reign of King John: in one of the windows are the arms of Lewis, the Dauphin of France, who had been invited into England during that troublesome reign; of William de Vernun, grandson to Richard de Redvers the Elder, and of some of the other Barons that favored the cause of Lewis, who quitted the kingdom, for which
he

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 219. Though the port of Lymington is subordinate to that of Southampton, it has still many privileges of its own. "As early as the second of Edward the Third, the *petty duties* were taken by the inhabitants on certain merchandizes brought to this port. The people of Southampton disputed their right to imposing and receiving duties. The question was tried, and the men of Lymington were cast. This was in 1329, Madox Firm. Burg. p. 220. Notwithstanding this decision against them, the men of Lymington, afterwards, were repeatedly guilty of the same offence, and as repeatedly paid for it: but at length, in the year 1730, having again taken the petty customs, and being sued for the same by the Mayor and Corporation of Southampton, the people of Lymington had the address to get the cause moved from the courts above to the county assize, where a jury from their own neighbourhood gave a verdict in their favor: and since this period the petty customs have been paid at Lymington." Ibid.

he had contended in arms, in so inglorious a manner, that history has not recorded the place of his embarkation; though tradition insinuates it was at Leap, a few miles to the eastward of Lymington.* The Church is finely situated on an eminence to the north of the village, and commands a variety of pleasing views. The REV. WILLIAM GILPIN,† the late exemplary and celebrated Vicar of this parish, founded two schools here, in the year 1791, for the instruction of twenty boys, and an equal number of girls. The cost of the *School-House*, which is a plain brick building, was about 210l. the expense of instructing the children, is forty guineas annually. To provide a permanent fund to defray this charge, Mr. Gilpin appropriated the whole of his drawings and sketches, which he divided into eighty-nine lots; and since his decease, they have been sold by auction in London: the sum procured for them greatly exceeded the original estimate of their value. The regulations by which the schools are conducted are extremely judicious.‡ The *Poor-House* at Boldre is also on a respectable establishment, to the plan and execution of which, Mr. Gilpin very largely contributed. The Parsonage-House, at *Vicar's Hill*, overlooks a very wide extent of beautiful scenery.

WALHAMPTON, the seat of Sir Harry Burrard Neale, Bart. was given, by Richard de Redvers, to the Canons of Christchurch, who possessed it at the Dissolution, when Henry the Eighth granted it to Sir Thomas Wriothesley, afterwards Earl of Southampton; from whose descendants it came into the possession of the Earls of Arundel, and afterwards to the family of the present owner. The grounds were laid out about seventy years ago; and command some pleasing views of the Isle of Wight, and the intervening channel.

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. 1. p. 83.

† Author of the Remarks on Forest Scenery, and several other admired Publications on Picturesque Beauty, as well as an Essay on Prints, the Lives of several Reformers, and other Works.

‡ See Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. where very particular accounts are given of the management both of the Schools, and of the Poor-House.

channel. A swamp, of about twelve acres, has been formed into a lake, the sides of which are well wooded, and its extremities concealed by plantations. Near Walhampton is NEWTOWN, formerly the property of the Mitfords, of this county, but now the seat of H. C. Plowden, Esq. who purchased it a few years ago. The Mansion is spacious and handsome: from a circular room at the top, is a very extensive and diversified view.

At BADDESLEY,* a chapelry to Boldre, was a PRECEPTORY of Knights Templars, founded about the latter end of the twelfth century, and, on the abolition of that order, granted, by Edward the Second, to the Knights Hospitallers. The site of the Preceptory is occupied by a small manorial Chapel, appertaining to an estate now belonging to Thomas Weld, Esq. of Lullworth Castle, Dorsetshire; but formerly to the Worsleys, of Appuldurcombe.

PILEWELL

* The history of the *Groaning Tree* of Baddesley, which became the subject of much conversation about half a century ago, is thus related by Mr. Gilpin. "A cottager, who lived near the centre of the village, heard frequently, a strange noise behind his house, like that of a person in extreme agony. Soon after, it caught the attention of his wife, who was then confined to her bed. She was a timorous woman, and being greatly alarmed, her husband endeavoured to persuade her, that the noise she heard was only the bellowing of the stags in the Forest. By degrees, however, the neighbours on all sides heard it; and the circumstance began to be much talked of. It was by this time plainly discovered, that the groaning noise proceeded from an *Elm*, which grew at the bottom of the garden. It was a young, vigorous tree, and, to all appearance, perfectly sound. In a few weeks the fame of the groaning tree was spread far and wide; and people from all parts flocked to hear it. Among others, it attracted the curiosity of the late Prince and Princess of Wales, who resided at that time, for the advantage of a sea-bath, at Pilewell, within a quarter of a mile of the groaning tree.

"Though the country people assigned many superstitious causes for this strange phenomenon, the naturalist could assign no physical one, that was in any degree satisfactory. Some thought it was owing to the twisting and friction of the roots: others thought that it proceeded from water, which had collected in the body of the tree; or, perhaps, from pent air: but no cause that was alledged appeared equal to the effect.

In

PILEWELL HOUSE "is a handsome family seat, beautifully situated, enjoying a fine view, that ranges from the Needles to Spithead. The south front is the most striking, consisting of an elegant suite of apartments. Its west wing is formed by the Library, a noble and well-proportioned room, stocked with a variety of choice books. An extensive lawn, belted by a shady walk, with occasional openings, stretches from the house to the sea-side."

At **SOWLEY**, a short distance to the eastward of Pilewell, is an extensive sheet of water, which covers nearly 140 acres of ground, and was formerly denominated *Fresh-water*, as appears by ancient charters, and considered as forming a boundary to the possessions of Beaulieu Abbey. It is in many parts extremely deep, and teems with excellent fish: its waters are now applied to turn the wheels of two large mills belonging to some iron-works.

About two miles from Sowley, and almost close to the sea-shore, is **PARK FARM**, anciently one of the *Granges* belonging to the Monks of Beaulieu. Its situation is extremely pleasing, as it lies embosomed in fine woods, through which occasional views are admitted of the Isle of Wight, and the neighbouring Channel. The granges, or farms, appertaining to Beaulieu Abbey, had the privilege of having divine service celebrated in them, by a bull granted

In the mean time, the tree did not always groan; sometimes disappointing its visitants; yet no cause could be assigned for its temporary cessations, either from seasons, or weather. If any difference was observed, it was thought to groan least when the weather was wet; and most when it was clear and frosty; but the sound at all times seemed to come from the roots.

"Thus the groaning tree continued an object of astonishment, during the space of eighteen or twenty months, to all the country around; and for the information of distant parts, a pamphlet was drawn up, containing a particular account of all the circumstances relating to it. At length, the owner of it, a gentleman of the name of Forbes, making too rash an experiment to discover the cause, bored a hole in its trunk. After this it never groaned. It was then rooted up, with a further view to make a discovery; but still nothing appeared which led to any investigation of the cause. It was universally, however, believed, that there was no trick in the affair; but that some natural cause really existed, though never understood." *Remarks on Forest Scenery, Vol. I. p. 163, 164.*

granted by Pope Alexander the First. The *Chapel* of Park Grange is yet standing, though much dilapidated: it unites at the south-east end with the Farm House, a massive stone building, of equal antiquity. The length of the Chapel is forty-two feet; its breadth about fourteen: the interior is divided into two apartments by a stone screen, which reaches to the roof. The floor of the altar part is elevated about six inches: in the south wall is a niche, where the pix and crucifix were placed. In each division of the Chapel, the vaulting is supported by four plain ribs, which unite in a rose at the centre. The interior part is lighted by three pointed windows: the anti-chapel has only two lancet lights at the south-west extremity.*

At a short distance from Park Farm, on the road to Beaulieu, are the ruins of the Barn and Chapel of ST. LEONARD'S, anciently the principal Grange belonging to Beaulieu Abbey. The *Barn* was of great magnitude, its length measuring 226 feet; its breadth, seventy-seven; and its height, upwards of sixty feet: within the end walls, is a barn of considerable size, that has been constructed with the old materials. The remains of the Chapel evince it to have once been extremely beautiful; but its original splendor is nearly obscured, from the ruin having been long applied "to the ignoble purposes of a goose-house and a hog-stye." At the east end, on each side the altar-piece, is an elegant niche, "adorned with lateral pinnacles, richly embossed, and a sara-cenic arch, crowned with a cross."†

In a beautiful valley, on the banks of the Beaulieu River, or Boldre Water, is BUCKLER'S-HARD,‡ a populous village, principally inhabited by workmen employed in ship-building. Many frigates and men of war have been built here, the situation being very convenient for the purpose, and the tide forming a fine bay at high water. Buckler's-Hard is included in the extensive manor of Beaulieu; and here, previously to the peace of 1748, John,

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second

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 233.

† Ibid, 235.

‡ The word *Hard* signifies a firm causeway, made upon the mud, for the purpose of landing.

second Duke of Montague, the then proprietor, proposed to establish a town, to be called after his own title, intending it as a depository and refining-place for sugars brought from the Island of St. Lucia, in the West Indies, of which, also, he was then owner. St. Lucia being declared neutral at the peace, the Duke's property there was lost; and the projected building of the town was, in consequence, relinquished; though its limits had been fixed, and the streets marked out.

The ruins of BEAULIEU ABBEY are beautifully situated about three miles above Buckler's-Hard, on the eastern banks of the river, over which is an old wooden bridge, that communicates with the village of *Beaulieu*. The delightful valley that surrounds these venerable remains is of a circular form, bounded by well-wooded hills, and in itself consists of a rich variety of ground. The original name of Beaulieu was *Bellus-Locus*, or *Fine-Place*; a term expressive of the situation; and which, indeed, is still preserved in its present name. The trade of the village is principally confined to a manufacture of coarse sacking. The river is navigable to the bridge for vessels of fifty tons burthen.

BEAULIEU ABBEY was founded in the year 1204, by King John, for Monks of the Cistercian Order; a class of religious to which that Monarch had previously been particularly adverse. The motives which impelled him to this act of piety, as it was denominated by the superstition of the age, being difficult to be assigned from any of his known principles of conduct, have furnished the Monks with an opportunity of resorting to the convenient system of miraculous interposition. In the outset of their legend, they observe, that the King, after various oppressive measures exercised against the Cistercians, summoned the Abbots and principals of that order to Lincoln, whither they hastened, flattering themselves that he would there confer upon them some marks of his grace and favor. Instead of this, the historians continue, "the savage Monarch ordered the Abbots to be trodden to death by horses: but none of his attendants being found sufficiently cruel to obey the sanguinary command, the ecclesiastics, dreadfully alarmed, retired hastily to their inn. In the course of the ensuing night,

when the Monarch slumbered on his bed, he dreamt that he was standing before a Judge, accompanied by the Cistercian Abbots, who were commanded to scourge him severely with rods and thongs; and when he awoke in the morning, he declared that he still felt the smart of the beating. On relating this dream to a certain ecclesiastic of his court, he was advised to crave pardon of the Abbots, whom he had before so barbarously treated; and assured that the Almighty had been infinitely merciful to him, in thus revealing the mysteries of his dispensations, and affording him paternal correction. The King, adopting this counsel, ordered the Abbots to attend him, and, contrary to their expectations, received them with kindness;* and the remembrance of his dream still continuing to influence his conduct, he shortly after granted a charter for the foundation of the Abbey.

The endowments bestowed by John were very great; and, in addition to various important privileges and immunities, he ordered a payment to be made of 100 marks, towards the erection of the monastic buildings, which were raised on such a magnificent scale, that, notwithstanding numerous pious donations made during the time of carrying on the works, as well as assistance derived from various other sources, the sum of 4000 marks remained undischarged on their completion: this debt the Monks were enabled to defray, by a grant of the impropriation of the Church and Chapel of Cokewell, in Berkshire. Henry the Third confirmed all the benefactions of his predecessor, John, and invested the Monks with the liberty of free-warren throughout their manor of Farendon, in Berkshire, which the latter King had bestowed on them, together with the privileges of holding fairs and markets therein on stated days. Edward the Third confirmed all the preceding grants; and, in the twentieth of his reign, ordered a tun of prisage wine to be delivered to the Monks annually for the celebration of mass. About this period, the Abbey was received under the especial protection of Pope Innocent, who invested it with the privilege of sanctuary, exempted it from the payment of tithes, and conferred various

* Mon. Ang. Tom I. p. 926; et Appendix, No. II.

rights upon its members. That the Abbot had the power of sitting in Parliament, is asserted by tradition; but this report has not been corroborated by reference to any historical document. On the Dissolution, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the possessions of the Abbey were, according to Dugdale, estimated at the annual value of 326l. 13s. 2d. but according to Speed, at that of 428l. 6s. 8d. In the following year, the manor of Beaulieu, with all its rights, privileges, and appurtenances, (the rectory, and right of patronage, excepted,) was granted to Thomas Wriothesley, Esq. afterwards Earl of Southampton. This grant was confirmed by James the First, to Henry, Earl of Southampton; and the patronage of the Parish Church, together with the rectory of Beaulieu, was again vested in its Lords. In the reign of William the Third, this estate became the property of Ralph, Lord Montague, afterwards created Duke of Montague, by marriage with the heiress of the Wriothesleys. His son, John, second Duke of Montague, transmitted it to his daughters, Isabella and Mary, from whom, by intermarriages, the manor has descended to the Lord Beaulieu, and the Duke of Buccleugh.* The circumference of the manor embraces an extent of twenty-eight miles, and the clear annual revenue amounts to between 4000 and 5000l.

The immediate precincts of the Abbey were encircled by a stone wall, which in several places remains nearly entire, and is richly mantled with ivy; its circumference is about a mile and a quarter: the entrance is by an ancient stone *Gateway*. Proceeding onward, the first object that attracts particular attention, is an edifice, nearly of a square form, now called the Palace, but originally built for the *Abbot's Lodging*, and converted into a family seat after the Dissolution. Over the entrance is a canopied niche, in which stood the image of the Virgin Mary, to whom the Abbey was dedicated. The Hall is a well-proportioned room, handsomely vaulted, the ribs springing from pilasters, and spreading over the roof in beautiful ramifications. Eastward from this edifice is a long building, supposed, from the extent and height of the apartments,

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. p. 292, 293.

ments, to have been the *Dormitory*: beneath it are several good cellars. The ancient *Kitchen* is also standing; and near it is the *Refectory*, a plain stone edifice, with strong buttresses: this is now the Parish Church of Beaulieu; the Abbey Church, which stood to the north-east, having been entirely destroyed. The roof is curiously raftered with oak; the intersections of the ribs being embossed with rude sculptures of angels with shields, abbots' heads, and other figures. On the west side, elevated about twelve feet above the floor, is the ancient rostrum, or pulpit, from which lectures were read when the monks were assembled at their meals below. The ascent into it is by a flight of stone steps, curiously arched and ribbed over head, and enlightened by pointed apertures: its form is demi-octagonal.

The site of the Abbey Church may be traced by the unevenness of the ground; but not a vestige of the building is remaining. Fragments of demolished tombs are occasionally dug up here, this having been the burial-place of various illustrious personages; and among them, of Queen Eleanor, mother of King John. Some traces of the *Cloisters* are yet distinguishable, round an area of about a quarter of an acre, now converted into a garden, on the west side of which is a *Gateway*, with rich mouldings, pillars, and capitals. Behind the garden, are ruins of some of the offices of the Monastery, and particularly of the apartment in which the monks manufactured their wine. Some fields to the north of this building, spreading along a gentle declivity, with a southern aspect, still bear the name of the *Vineyards*.* Several of the fishponds, belonging to this Monastery, are yet entire, and abound in fish.

During the period that Beaulieu Abbey was invested with the privilege of a sanctuary, its walls afforded a temporary protection to Margaret of Anjou, the courageous Queen of Henry the Sixth, who, returning from the Continent in full expectation of being reinstated in her former dignity, was, on her arrival at Weymouth,

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informed

* See Warner's Remarks, Vol. I. in which are various proofs of the vine having been cultivated in this country.

informed of the imprisonment of her husband, the destruction of his army, the death of the Earl of Warwick, and the elevation to the throne of her mortal enemy, Edward the Fourth. On this occasion, her intrepid spirit bent beneath the pressure of accumulated woe; and, with her youthful son, she sought refuge within the friendly walls of Beaulieu, where, soon afterwards, the presence of the Earl of Devon, and some other faithful adherents, caused her to re-assume her fortitude, and again prepare for active exertion. Another celebrated fugitive, to whom the Abbey of Beaulieu afforded sanctuary, was Perkin Warbeck, whose real origin has been a theme of much argument, and is yet, perhaps, a subject for future historians completely to develop. Having landed in the west of England, and received a check before the gates of Exeter, he fled to this asylum, where he continued some time; though every chance of escape was precluded by the conduct of Lord Daubeney, who invested the place with 300 men. At length, the promises of the King, Henry the Seventh, allured him from his retreat; and, after the publication of an actual, or pretended, confession of imposture, he was committed prisoner to the Tower. Shortly afterwards, on a charge of treasonable practices, he was condemned to die, and was executed at Tyburn, in the year 1499.

Near the mouth of the Beaulieu river, and village of Exbury, is **EXBURY HOUSE**, the seat of Colonel Mitford, author of the *History of Greece*, by whose judicious alterations the grounds of this estate have been greatly improved; the views are in many parts extremely fine; this demesne is about eight miles in circumference.

LEAP, a small hamlet on the sea shore, inhabited by fishermen, is the common place of embarkation from this part of Hampshire to the Isle of Wight, it lying nearly opposite to Cowes. On this coast, observes Mr. Gilpin, "fowling and fishing are commonly the employments of the same person. He who in summer, with his line or his net, plies the shores, when they are overflowed by the tide, in winter, with his gun, as the evening draws on, runs up in his boat among the creeks and crannies, which the tide leaves in the mud lands, and there lies in patient expectation of his prey."

At

As the coast between this portion of the county and the Isle of Wight, is of a peculiar description, consisting, when the tide ebbs, of vast muddy flats, covered with green sea-weed, the fowler has here an opportunity of practising arts which can only be pursued in similar situations, and which require the exertion of considerable fortitude. The sea-fowl commonly feed by night; and as they advance in all their multitudes to graze on the savannas of the shore, the fowler attentively listens to their noise, which, when on the wing, bears resemblance to the full cry of a pack of hounds. Should they alight at some place at too great a distance for his gun, though of the longest barrel, to reach them, and his situation put it out of his power to edge his boat along some winding creek, he despairs of success that night; but if he discovers them within the range of his piece, or pieces, for he is generally doubly armed, he prepares to fire. As his prey feed in silence, his aim can only be governed by the indistinct noises which arise among so large a host; he directs his first piece, therefore, as well as he can, towards the sound, and instantly catching up his other gun, discharges it towards the spot where he supposes the flock to rise on the wing. His gains for the night are now decided; and he has only to gather his harvest. He immediately puts on his mud-pattens, which are flat pieces of board, worn to prevent his sinking in the mud, and goes groping about in the dark in quest of his booty; picking up perhaps a dozen, and perhaps not one.—“ So hardly does the poor fowler earn a few shillings, exposed, in an open boat, during a solitary winter night, to the weather as it comes, rain, hail, or snow; on a bleak coast, a league perhaps from the beach; and often in danger, without great care, of being fixed in the mud, where he would become an inevitable prey to the returning tide.”*

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are

* Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II. p. 191—193. “ I have heard,” continues this author, from whose account the above particulars are selected, “ of an unhappy fowler, whom this hazardous occupation led into the greatest distress, and that too in the day-time, which shows the double danger of such expeditions in the night. Mounted on his mud-pattens,

are bred in the rushes and sedges of a small creek eastward of Leap, and in the covers of the various little rough islands that rise on its surface.

Proceeding

pattens, he was traversing one of these mud-land plains in quest of ducks, and being intent only on his game, he suddenly found that the waters, which had been brought forward with uncommon rapidity by some peculiar circumstances of tide and current, had made an alarming progress around him. Incumbered as his feet were, he could not exert much expedition; but to whatever part he ran, he found himself completely invested by the tide. In this uncomfortable situation, a thought struck him, and, as the only hope of safety, he retired to that part of the plain which seemed the highest, from its being yet uncovered by water; here, striking the barrel of his gun (which, for the purpose of shooting wild-fowl, was very long) deep into the mud, he resolved to hold fast by it, as a support, as well as security, against the waves; and to wait the ebbing of the tide. A common tide, he had reason to believe, would not, in that place, have reached above his middle; but as this was a spring-tide, and brought in with so strong a current, he durst hardly expect so favorable a conclusion. In the mean time, the water making a rapid advance, had now reached him. It covered the ground on which he stood—it rippled over his feet—it gained his knees—his waist—button after button was swallowed up—till at length it advanced over his very shoulders. With a palpitating heart, he gave himself up for lost; still, however, he held fast by his anchor. His eye was eagerly in search of some boat, which might accidentally take its course that way, but none appeared. A solitary head floating on the water, and that sometimes covered by a wave, was no object to be descried from the shore, at the distance of half a league; nor could he exert any sounds of distress that could be heard so far.—While he was thus making up his mind, as the exigence would allow, to the terrors of destruction, his attention was called to a new object. He thought he saw the uppermost button of his coat begin to appear. No mariner floating on a wreck, could behold a cape at sea with greater transport, than he did the uppermost button of his coat; but the fluctuation of the water was such, and the turn of the tide so slow, that it was yet some time before he durst venture to assure himself, that the button was fairly above the level of the flood. At length, however, a second button appearing at intervals, his sensations may rather be conceived than described; and his joy gave him spirits and resolution to support his uneasy situation four or five hours longer, till the waters had fairly retired.”

Proceeding along the coast to the north-east, the eye is arrested by a whimsical kind of building, called EAGLEHURST; but more generally, *Luttrell's Folly*, from its having been erected by the Honorable Temple Luttrell. It was raised as a prospect-house, and occupies a very beautiful and commanding eminence, which has been formed into a terrace, and extends a considerable way along the beach: the sea-view is remarkably interesting. This edifice is in the form of a lofty tower, in which are the banqueting and sitting rooms; these apartments are fitted up in a very expensive and splendid style: the offices are detached. This estate is now the property of the Earl of Cavan,

About one mile from this edifice, on a singular tongue of land, which projects nearly half way across the Southampton Water, is CALSHOT CASTLE, a small fortress, constructed by Henry the Eighth, as a safeguard to Southampton Bay. It has still a garrison, though but ill-adapted for defence, and at present of very immaterial importance: the surrounding prospects are very fine.

CADLAND, the interesting seat of Robert Drummond, Esq. near the pleasant village of Fawley, includes an area about five miles in circumference, inclosed as a Park, and finely diversified by its irregular surface, and woodland scenery. The House is a plain, but commodious building, standing on a gentle eminence, near the banks of the Southampton Water. The grounds were laid out by Brown, and contain a great abundance of old and venerable timber.

At HYTHE, a beautiful little hamlet, that skirts the Southampton Water, is the ferry from this side to the town of Southampton, which lies immediately opposite to it on the north. The prospects from the adjacent eminence, are extensive, and extremely fine.

At DIBDEN, an ancient village, called Depe-dene in the Domesday Book, was a *Fishery* and a *Saltern*, at the time of making that survey. The Church is very old, but incommodious and mean: several of the *Lisle* family, of Moyle's Court, and Crux Easton, lie buried in this fabric. In the Church-yard is an immense yew-tree, the bole of which is about thirty feet round near the root. The trunk is hollow, but still sufficiently strong to support

support three stems of very considerable size. About 140 acres of marsh and mud-lands, on the shore near Dibden, have lately been securely embanked, and cultivated at the expense of Lord Malmsbury, who possesses a large estate in this neighbourhood.

The manor of BURY-FARM, between three and four miles northward from Dibden, is the property of Sir Charles Mills, Bart. and is held by an ancient grant from the Crown, by the tenure of the possessor presenting the Sovereign with a pair of white greyhounds whenever he enters the New Forest. This custom was observed in the year 1789, when the late Rev. Sir Charles Mills presented his present Majesty with a couple of those animals, as he alighted from his carriage at Lyndhurst; the breed being purposely preserved by the family. The House is a modern building, erected on the site of an ancient mansion, in removing which, and in digging the foundations of the present one, a considerable number of Roman coins were discovered; most of them are still in the possession of Sir Charles.

ELING, called *Edlinges* in the Domesday Book, appears, from that record, to have been a place of some consequence, it having a Church, two mills, a fishery, and a saltern, at the period of making the Survey. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the manor was held by the tenure of providing half a day's entertainment for the King, whenever he should pass that way. The Church has been enlarged at different periods, as appears from the variety in its architecture. In sinking a well in this parish, a few years ago, a quantity of fossil shells was discovered at the depth of thirty-six feet.

About two miles south-westward from Eling is the beautiful Forest-Lawn, called HOUND'S-DOWN, which to the eye appears of a circular form; but the skirts of the area are every where broken by grand screens of forest-wood, which give a dignity to the view but rarely equalled. This is regarded as one of the best pasture grounds in the New Forest; the herds of deer that are seen grazing on it in a summer evening, add greatly to the interest of the landscape.

Returning

Returning to the sea coast, in the neighbourhood of Lymington, one of the first objects that arrests attention, is **HURST CASTLE**, a fortress erected to defend this part of the Channel by Henry the Eighth, and consisting of a circular tower, strengthened by semi-circular bastions. This Castle is situated near the extremity of an extraordinary natural causeway, or point of land, which runs two miles into the sea, in a south-east direction, and approaches the Isle of Wight within the distance of a mile. Compressed within these narrow limits, the tide rushes through the strait with redoubled force, and has deepened the channel to no less a depth than twenty-eight fathoms. The causeway itself, at high water, scarcely exceeds 200 yards in breadth, and is a steril length of beach, covered with loose gravel and pebbles. The side towards the Isle of Wight is a bold shore, beaten into ledges or terraces of pebbles, by the violence of the waves; the other side, which is sheltered, is undulating, marshy, and undermined; forming the water, when the tide flows, into a smooth land-locked bay.*

Within the dreary walls of Hurst Castle, Charles the First was confined for several days in December, 1648, the month immediately preceding that in which he was beheaded. Here also was imprisoned, during a period of thirty years, a Roman Catholic Priest, named Atkinson, who was condemned to perpetual confinement, for merely exercising the duties of his function. He died in October, 1729, at the age of seventy-four. The Castle has still a garrison; though, since the rise of Portsmouth, and the station of a fleet there, the works have generally been neglected.

Besides the curious situation of Hurst Castle, observes Mr. Gilpin,† “there is another peculiarity on this coast, which deserves notice. This is an Island called the **SHINGLES**, which sometimes rises fifteen or twenty feet above the water; and at other times, totally disappears. It shifts its situation also, rearing itself, at one time, nearer the Isle of Wight; and at another, nearer the coast of Hampshire: the mystery of it, is this. In that part of the channel lies a vast bank of pebbles, so near the surface, that it is
beaten

* Gilpin's Forest Scenery, Vol. II, p. 89.

† Ibid, p. 92,

beaten up into an Island by the raging of the sea, sometimes on one side, and sometimes on the other, as the tides and currents drive: from the same causes, also, all the prominent parts of it are easily dispersed, and the Island vanishes."

On the sea-coast, within the manors of MILFORD and HORDLE, traces of the ancient *Salinæ*, or *Salt-works*, may yet be discovered at very low ebbs of the tide. From the bold and lofty eminence, called Hordell or Hordwell Cliff, is a very grand view of the ocean, which here appears to compose a capacious bay; its eastern extremity being formed by the Isle of Wight, and its western point by Hengistbury Head. Hordle Church is mentioned in the Domesday Book, and parts of the structure appear to be as ancient as the reign of Edward the Confessor. A flat stone records the memory of Christopher Clark, some time Lord of this Manor, who died in 1720, at the great age of 112. The cliffs on this coast abound with fossil shells, a stratum of which is thought to range through the whole of the New Forest, in a north-eastern direction.

HIGH CLIFF obtained a considerable degree of popular celebrity from a sumptuous mansion erected here by the late Earl of Bute, for the advantage of the sea air, and extent of the prospect. The danger arising from the situation, and other circumstances, have, however, occasioned this seat to be neglected, and part of the building to be taken down, as the land-springs are constantly undermining the Cliff, so that large masses of it frequently fall into the sea. In some places on this coast, the violence of the waves, combining with the effect of the springs, is recorded to have encroached upon the land nearly a quarter of a mile within the last thirty or forty years.

About two miles eastward from Christ-Church, is a farm, called SOMERFORD GRANGE, which belonged to the Priory founded in that town, and, at the period of the Dissolution, was given to John Draper, the last Prior, together with the manor. The principal buildings are a ruined brick house, apparently of the time of Charles the First; and a more ancient *Chapel*, of stone, adjoining it on the east: the roof of the latter is handsomely arched with wood.

wood. In the grounds are several large fish-ponds, from which the inmates of the Priory were supplied with fish.*

CHRIST-CHURCH,

OR CHRIST-CHURCH TWYNEHAM, but more correctly *Twynam-bourne*, or *Tweon-ea*, as it was called in the Saxon times,† is situated, as these latter names imply, between two rivers, the Avon and the Stour, which unite their streams at a short distance below the town, and then spreading to the south-east, flow into the sea at Christ-Church Bay. The appellation Christ-Church, was derived from the ancient Church and Priory erected here, and consecrated to the Saviour Christ.

The origin of this town is unquestionably extremely remote, and if not of British, it was probably of Roman building, as may be inferred from a discovery made by the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who, in ascertaining the ichnography of the demolished Priory, discovered within the foundations, a cavity about two feet square, that had been covered with a stone, carefully cemented with lead into the adjoining pavement, and contained to the amount of half a bushel of bird's bones, and these of herons, bitterns, cocks, and hens, mostly well preserved.‡

Extraordinary as such a phenomenon may seem, observes Mr. Warner, "there is no difficulty in accounting for it, if we advert to the superstition of the ancient Romans, and to the practices of the early Christians. Among the former, many different species of birds were held in high veneration, and carefully preserved for the purposes of sacrifice and augurial divination. Adopting the numerous absurdities of Egyptian and Grecian worship, these tolerating

* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II.

† The appellation *Tweon-ea*, occurs in the Saxon Chronicle; that of Twyneham is mentioned in a charter granted by King Athelstan, and printed in the Monasticon.

‡ Archæologia, Vol. IV. p. 118.

rating conquerors had affixed a sacredness to the cock, the hawk, the heron, the chicken, and other birds; the bones of which, after their decease, were not unfrequently deposited within the walls of the temple of the deity to whom they were considered as peculiarly appropriated. It seems then probable that the spot on which the Priory of Christ-Church was erected, had originally been occupied by some *Heathen Temple*.

“That a Christian place of worship should be erected on the site of a Pagan Temple at Christ-Church, is not an incredible circumstance, since similar instances occur, not only in our own kingdom, but throughout the whole Continent of Europe; and we learn from Keysler, that it was a common practice with those who undertook the conversion of the Heathens, to fix on such spots for their new places of worship, as had been hallowed in the opinion of the converts, by ancient consecration.”*

The earliest historical document relating to this town, occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, from which it appears, that Ethelwold, cousin-german to Edward the Elder, took possession of it during his short-lived revolt in the reign of the latter Prince. In the Domesday Book, it is mentioned as a Royal Manor, and a Burgh, by the name of *Thuinam*; and recorded to have thirty-one messuages, paying a yearly tax of sixteen pence.

Christ-Church continued parcel of the Royal demesne till the reign of Henry the First, who gave it to Richard de Repariis, or Redvers, with many other possessions of immense value. This powerful Baron is supposed to have strengthened the town by walls, and to have erected a CASTLE here,† though Norden has recorded the latter to have been raised by Edward the Elder. In a charter granted to the Priory by Baldwin de Redvers, son of the above Richard, early in the twelfth century, the *fossatum castelli* is expressly mentioned; the fortress itself, therefore, must have been previously erected. Christ-Church remained in the possession of the De Redvers family, with a short alienation by the marriage of
of

* Topographical Remarks, Vol. II. p. 41—44.

† Ibid.

of a daughter, till the time of Edward the Second, when it was re-leased to that Sovereign by Isabella de Fortibus.*

Edward the Third, in the ninth of his reign, granted the borough, manor, and hundred of Christ-Church, to Sir William de Montacute, afterwards Earl of Salisbury, and his wife Catherine, in whose descendants they continued till about the year 1400, when Sir John de Montacute was beheaded for conspiring against Henry the Fourth, and his possessions escheated to the Crown. In the thirty-second of Henry the Sixth, this manor, borough, and hundred, were leased to Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury in right of the Lady Alice, his wife, for the term of twelve years, by the annual rent of a red rose. Whether or not this lease was renewed, is uncertain, though most probably it was, as these possessions were numbered with the other estates of the celebrated Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, Richard's grand-daughter, whom the tyrant, Henry the Eighth, caused to be attainted of treason, and decapitated in her seventieth year.

James the First, by indenture, dated in the eighteenth of his reign, vested the manor of Christ-Church, with many others, in certain trustees, for the use of his son Prince Charles; after whose accession to the throne, it was granted, with all its appurtenances, to four persons, named Ditchfield, Highlord, Clarke, and Mosse, to hold in fee-farm, at the annual rent of 32l. 4s. 1d. In the twenty-second of Charles the Second, it appears, from the adjustments of the claims on the New Forest, to have belonged to Edward, Earl of Clarendon, whose family continued owners till the close of that century, when it became the property of Sir Peter Mew. By the descendants of that gentleman, it was transmitted to the late J. Clark, Esq. who bequeathed it to Sir George Tapps, Bart. The Right Honorable George Rose, the present proprietor, became possessed by purchase in the year 1790.

The principal parts of the *Castle* that now remain, are the ruins of the Keep, or Citadel, and of an ancient stone building, that was probably the State apartment. The former occupied the summit

* See under Lymington, p. 185.

mit of a small artificial mount, and, from the remains of the east and west walls now standing, appears to have inclosed an area of about twenty-eight feet by twenty-four: these walls are ten feet thick; their original height is unknown, as the upper parts have been taken down. The building supposed to have been the state apartment, or Governor's residence, is upwards of seventy feet long, and nearly thirty broad; its walls, like those of the Keep, being exceedingly thick. On the ground floor are a number of loop-holes, formed by a large semicircular arch within, lessening by degrees, and terminating in a chink. From the ground floor was an ascent to the upper apartments by a stone stair-case, part of which yet remains. "The place for receiving the floor of the first story is very visible; it seems to have had one room only, lighted by three large windows on the east, and as many on the west side: they were all included in semicircular arches, formed of stones very neatly cut, and divided by a small pillar in the centre. In the east side, and somewhat north of the centre, was a very large fire-place, worked circularly into the main wall, having also a high cylindrical stone chimney, seemingly the only (original) one in the building. At the north end there appears to have been a large arched window; the columns, and part of the internal arch, are still remaining, and answer to a handsome semicircular arch on the outside, decorated with zig-zag ornaments. This has been stopped up, and two brick fire-places, with a chimney of the same materials, built up in it, seemingly of no antiquity, whence it is evident that this building has been converted into a dwelling. Over the south end, near the top, is a circular window, which seems to have been made for lighting some upper apartment. From what remains of the ornamental part of this building, it appears to have been elegantly finished, and cased with squared stones; most of which, however, have been taken away: by the ruins of several walls, there were some ancient buildings at right angles to this hall, stretching away towards the Keep."^{*}

The PRIORY of Christ-Church was a very ancient foundation; so ancient, indeed, that we have no records of the time of its original

^{*} Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II.

ginal establishment. Camden only observes, that it was founded early in the Saxon times; and other writers are equally deficient as to the exact period of its origin. Its inmates were secular Canons of the order of St. Augustine; and the establishment, as early as the reign of Edward the Confessor, consisted of a Dean and twenty-four Canons.* William Rufus bestowed the Church and Convent on Ralph Flambard, Bishop of Durham, the minion of his tyranny, who had been Dean here in the early part of his life. This prelate determined to rebuild the Church, and the other conventual edifices, which he found extremely out of repair, on a more extensive and superb scale than they had been originally constructed; and for this purpose seized the revenues of the Canons, allowing each of them merely a sufficiency for his sustenance. Godric, the then Dean, who strenuously opposed this infringement of the rights of his brethren, was degraded from his office, and obliged to seek refuge on the Continent; whence, however, he was afterwards permitted to return, and was reinstated in his former dignity. Flambard having thus overcome all opposition to his designs, levelled the ancient buildings with the ground;† and having sufficiently completed his new works, the Church was solemnly dedicated to Christ. About this period, the Bishop purposed to remove the secular Canons, and to replace them by regular Canons of the same order; but his extortions, and oppressive conduct, having offended the new Monarch, Henry the First, he was deprived of all his wealth and honors, and imprisoned in the Tower. From this fortress he escaped by stratagem, and fled to Normandy, to the court of Robert, the eldest brother of Henry, whom he excited to invade England, and by whose influence he was restored to his bishopric; yet the Priory of Christ-Church was retained by Henry, and afterwards granted with the manor to Richard de Redvers. This nobleman increased the endowments by the gift of various rich estates, and vested the community with many valuable privileges. His son, Baldwin, confirmed all the

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* Tanner's Notitia.

† Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 95.

grants made by his father, and bestowed several additional immunities. Soon afterwards, Baldwin introduced a certain number of regular Canons into the society, and placed them under the government of a Prior; thus completing the alteration projected by Flambard; he permitted, however, the secular Canons to continue members till their respective deaths, though in a state of subordination to the new-comers.* Richard de Redvers, son of Baldwin, by grant, dated anno 1161, invested the Priory with many new privileges. Numerous grants, with additional liberties, were made by the subsequent possessors of the family estates; yet this increase in property and consequence, does not appear to have been accompanied with any proportionate increase in the knowledge of either science or literature; the only book in the Priory Library, at the period of the Dissolution, being the *Leges aliquot regum Saxonice*;† a Saxon version of a few laws.

When the possessions of this Priory were surrendered to Henry the Eighth, their annual nett value was estimated by the Commissioners at 312l. 7s. 9d. the gross income, according to Speed, was 544l. 6s. 0d. John Draper, the last Abbot, had a pension allowed of 133l. 6s. 8d. and was also permitted to occupy, during life, the Prior's Lodgings, and Grange at Somersford. These considerable investments were most probably in return for his pliant conduct, the Commissioners having reported him to be a *very honest conformable person*; and one too, it should seem, who had not secreted any of the riches of his establishment; as the same letter has the sentence, "we found the house welle furnyshede with juellys and plate, whereof some be meete for the King's Majestie's use."‡ On the fourteenth of September, in the thirty-first of his reign, Henry the Eighth granted the site of the Priory to Stephen Kirton, and Margaret, his wife, to hold by the service of the fortieth part of a Knight's fee, and the rent of 31s. 6d $\frac{1}{4}$.

In

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 115.

† Lelandi Col. Vol. III. p. 149.

‡ Brit. Mus. Cottonian Library. Cleopatra, 4.

In the ensuing year, the Priory Church, with the Church-yard, and all appurtenances, were granted to the Churchwardens and inhabitants of the town, for ever: this grant was confirmed by James the First, in the ninth of his reign, and has undoubtedly been the means of preserving the Church from the destruction that has overwhelmed the other buildings which appear to have been situated to the south of the Church, near the spot now occupied by the house and gardens that belonged to the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who purchased the site of the Priory about forty years ago. Some remains of the wall, that inclosed the conventual buildings, are yet standing; and without it, to the south-east, is a meadow, still called the Convent Garden; in a field adjoining to which, are the vestiges of several fish-ponds, and stews. Another trace of this religious foundation may be found in a walk, or ambulatory, called Paradise, now used as a place of recreation for the scholars of Christ-Church school. What seems to have been the Lodge of the Priory, is now occupied by a miller; and, from the initials J. D. which appear on various parts of the building, it is thought to have been erected during the time of John Draper, the last Prior. The site, and part of the walls of the *Refectory*, which measured thirty-six feet by twenty, and of some other buildings, were laid open by the late Mr. Brander, when he attempted to ascertain the ground-plan of the whole pile.

The CHURCH is a very large and interesting building; and though it has been greatly altered since the time of Bishop Flam-bard, still displays some considerable portions of his work, particularly in the nave, the south-western aisle, and the northern transept. "The *Nave* is formed by a double row of massive square pillars, ornamented with demi-columns: between these pillars are semicircular arches, springing from grouped pilasters, which are lateral projections from the main pillars. Each of these arches has a zig-zag moulding, or cornice, and the space between them, and the second story of arches, is filled up with little triangular indentations. The arches of this second story are also semicircular; the capitals of their pillars displaying various examples of feuillage; and the shafts of some of them ornamented with dia-

mond net-work, chevrons, and other figures."* This tier of arches is surmounted by a third, apparently of more modern date, as the arches are pointed, and have windows in them: round these is a triforium. The roof is of timber, and very ancient; but whether it formed part of the original building, is doubtful, as the groins of a stone roof spring from the terminations of the main pillars, and tradition records that the whole vaulting was once of stone. The south-western aisle, called also the lower walk, exhibits some semicircular arches, with the zig-zag moulding, and other ornaments. At the end of this aisle is a neat Chapel, supposed to have been built as a burial-place by John Draper, the first Prior of that name, who was installed in 1477.

The *North Transept* has been much altered, but still displays evident marks of the Norman style; particularly on the outside, in the escallop and net-work ornaments. Here are two small Chantries, or Oratories, adjoining each other, supposed to have been erected at the same time, by some Earl of Salisbury and his Lady, as the pavement, both within and contiguous to these, has been formed of square tiles, ornamented with the family arms. The intersection of the nave and transept is thought to have been originally crowned by a square tower, as the abutments are peculiarly strong, and have every appearance of having been formed to support some great incumbent weight: this opinion is corroborated by the traditions of the inhabitants. The appearance of the nave is greatly disfigured by the pews, which crowd and obscure many parts of it.

The *Chancel*, and all the eastern part of the edifice from the transept, is of more modern date than the portions above described. Most of the windows are large, and ornamented with mullions and tracery: from the low aisles at the sides, the upper part is strengthened by flying buttresses. The ramifications of the vaulting are handsome; and the bosses, or orbs, and the intersections are all ornamented with small busts, in various habits. The sides are wainscotted with oak, curiously carved; and particularly

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 147.

larly a fascia, or fillet, of grapes and vine-leaves, which runs along the top of the wainscoting. The ancient stalls for the Canons still remain; three of them have carved canopies: the whole number is thirty-six. The under sides of the benches of the stalls, and of many other seats, exhibit a curious series of grotesque and satirical representations, supposed to refer to the arts of the mendicant Friars, who began to establish themselves in England in the thirteenth century. In one of these pieces of carved-work, "a friar is represented, under the emblem of a *fox*, (with a cock for his clerk,) preaching to a set of *geese*, who, unconscious of the fallacy, are greedily listening to his deceitful words. In another, a *zany*, (which is intended to characterize the people at large,) whilst he *turns his back* upon a dish of porridge, has it licked up from him by a *rat*, (under which form we again recognize the *friar*,) who takes this opportunity of committing the theft. Under another of the seats, is a *baboon*, with a cowl on his head, reposing on a pillow, and exhibiting an enormous swollen paunch."*

The ascent to the altar is by a flight of four steps; on the uppermost of which, is an inscribed stone in memory of Baldwin de Redvers, the second of that name, who died in 1216. The *Altar-Piece* is a very curious specimen of ancient carving in wood, supposed, by Mr. Warner, to be coeval with Bishop Flambard. It represents the Genealogy of Christ, by a tree springing from the loins of Jesse, who is displayed in a recumbent position, supporting his head with his left hand. On each side of Jesse is a niche; in one of which is David, playing on his harp; and in the other, Solomon, in a musing attitude. Above these the Virgin is displayed, seated, with the child Jesus in her lap, and near her Joseph, with the magi, and the projecting heads of an ox and an ass; in allusion to the circumstances of our Lord's birth. "These are again surmounted by shepherds and sheep in high relief; the former looking upward to a group of angels, immediately over whom, God the Father, decorated with wings, extends his arms. Exclusive of these figures, most of which are mutilated, there are two-and-thirty smaller ones of different saints, placed in regular corre-

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 179.

sponding niches, which any one, well skilled in the Romish calender, might identify, from the attributes or emblems they all individually bear: nine large niches are now destitute of the images that formerly ornamented them.* On the terminations of the groins of the roof, above the *Concameratio*, or open space behind the altar, are small half-length figures, bearing music scrolls, and wind and other musical instruments. Under the altar is a subterraneous Chapel, or crypt, in which the vestiges of a small altar may yet be discerned.

In this part of the fabric, north from the altar, is the beautiful but mutilated Chapel, erected by the venerable Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, for her burial-place, in the reign of Henry the Seventh. The ornaments are extremely well sculptured, and the whole interior is in the most florid style of that age. The roof, or vaulting, is intersected in a very elegant manner, having a representation of the Holy Trinity, within a circle in the centre, and a figure of the Countess kneeling at the feet of God the Father. At the eastern extremity are the Montacute arms, with supporters, and the motto, *Spes mea in Deo est*; and beneath these a shield, with the five wounds of Christ embossed upon it. The hexagonal pilasters which support the Chapel, are highly enriched with sculptured ornaments: it has two fronts, one on the north-east side, and the other towards the altar. The original beauty of this structure must have been very great; its mutilations are owing to the more than Gothic barbarism that influenced the Commissioners who visited this Church at the Dissolution, and whose wilful dilapidations are thus recorded by themselves, in the document before referred to, as preserved in the British Museum. "In the Church we found a chaple and monument made of Cane (Caen) stone, perperyd by the late mother of Renold Pole for herre buriall, which we have causyd to be defacyd, and all the armys and badgis clerely to be delete."†

The eastern extremity of this Church is formed by a spacious Chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and supposed to have been
built

* Warner's Remarks, Vol. II. p. 188.

† Cottonian Library, Cleopatra, 4. *Delete* signifies to erase, or blot out.

built by the West family, ancestors to the Lords Delawar, about the conclusion of the fourteenth century; as Sir Thomas West, by will, dated in April, 1405, ordered his body to be interred in the *New Chapel*, and bequeathed 100l. towards the completion of the works of the Church. Several other confessional recesses ornament this building: the altar still remains, having somewhat the appearance of a table monument; the slab that forms the top, measuring eleven feet in length: above this is a piece of elegant carved work, ten feet high, ornamented with a profusion of small pointed niches. On each side of the altar is a tomb, made in the respective walls, and presumed to contain the remains of Alice, wife of Sir Thomas West, who died in 1395; and Thomas, her son. The arch of each recess displays some elegant light shafts of Purbeck marble. Immediately over this Chapel is a large room, called St. Michael's Loft, which has been set apart and used as a *Free Grammar School-Room*, ever since the year 1662; as appears by an entry in the old register of this parish: whether this was its original appropriation, is uncertain; but a school is known to have existed in this town so early as the time of the first Baldwin de Redvers, as appears from his confirmation of the rights granted by his father to the Priory.

The principal entrance into the Church, at the north-west extremity, is beneath a large *Porch*, apparently of the architecture of the fourteenth century. "The arches under which the doors are placed were originally very beautiful, being formed by a variety of mouldings, supported by slender pillars, elegantly shaped, receding inwards, and gradually narrowing the arch:" these shafts are of Purbeck stone. At the west end of the Church rises a square and well-proportioned embattled *Tower*, which seems to have been erected in the fifteenth century, by the Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, after their alliance with the Monthermers, as appears by the escutcheons of arms on each side the portal. The great window is nearly thirty feet high, and embellished with tracery: above it is a figure of the Saviour standing in a canopied niche, with his right hand raised, a cross in his left, and a crown of thorns on his head. The prospect from the summit of the tower includes a

very extensive tract, teeming with rich meadows, enlivened by the windings of the Avon and the Stour.

Among the sepulchral memorials in this pile, are various slabs, covering the remains of Priors and Canons, most of which have had brasses, displaying the full-length effigies of the deceased; and also inscriptions round the verge of each stone, in Saxon or Gothic characters: the most ancient of these marks the burial-place of Richard Mauri, who died Prior in the year 1297. In a small Chantry near the north transept, in front of which it formerly stood, is a curious altar-monument, with the full-length effigies in alabaster, of a Knight and his lady, traditionally recorded to have been erected to the memory of a Sir John Chidiok, of Dorsetshire, and his wife; the former of whom perished in one of the battles fought during the struggle between the rival houses of York and Lancaster. The Knight is arrayed in armour, with his feet resting on a lion couchant: round his neck is a collar of S.S: the lady is attired in the mitred head-dress, and close garb of the fifteenth century. This tomb has been greatly injured, and the figures mutilated. A monument has been raised here in memory of the late Gustavus Brander, Esq. who bequeathed a sum of money for the purchase of the organ erected in this structure.

The dimensions of the principal parts of this Church are as follow: whole length, including St. Mary's Chapel and the tower, 311 feet; extreme breadth at the western extremity, sixty feet; extent of the transept, 104 feet; breadth of transept, twenty-four feet; length of chancel, seventy feet; breadth, twenty feet; breadth of the nave, twenty-seven feet; circumference of the great pillars, thirty-six feet, six inches; height of the same, thirty-six feet; height of the tower 120 feet.

According to a monkish legend connected with the history of this Church, the building of it was expedited by the assistance of Heaven, a supernumerary workman being always observed during the hours of labor; though at the times of refreshment, and receiving wages, only the stated number appeared. By his aid, every thing prospered till the fabric was nearly finished, when, on raising a large beam to a particular situation, where it was intended to be

fixed, it was found to be too short; no remedy appearing, the embarrassed workmen retired to their dwellings. On returning to the Church the ensuing morning, they discovered that the beam had been placed in its right position, and was now extended a foot longer than was requisite. Speechless with surprise, the additional workman occurred to their thoughts; and on recovering their tongues, they agreed, that no other than Our Saviour could have thus assisted them; and on this account, concludes the story, was the edifice dedicated to Christ. The *miraculous beam* is still pointed out by the finger of Credulity.

In the reign of Edward the First, Christ-Church received a precept, ordering the return of two members to the National Council: and this was repeated in the first and second of Edward the Second, but no returns were made, through the 'poverty of the Burgesses.' In the thirteenth of Elizabeth, it was again summoned as a prescriptive borough; and the circumstances of the times inducing compliance, it has ever since been represented by two members. The right of election is exercised by the Corporation, which consists of a Mayor, a Recorder, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and a Common Council; in all twenty-four persons; but Browne Willis, and others, have stated the real right to reside in the inhabitant householders paying scot and lot.

According to the returns under the Population Act, in 1801, the inhabitants of Christ-Church amounted to 1410; and the number of houses to 295. Many of the former derive employment from two large breweries that have been established here; others are employed in the salmon fishery, on the rivers Avon and Stour, or in fishing round the neighbouring shores, which abound with various kinds of fine fish. The poorer class of females, both in the town and neighbourhood, are mostly engaged in knitting stockings; and many children are employed in a manufactory of watch-spring chains, established a few years ago, by a Mr. Robert Cox, of this town. The Poor-House is conducted on a very excellent plan, by which considerable sums are saved to the parish in the course of a year. The former expenditure has also been greatly lessened by the establishment of several friendly societies;

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the benefits arising from which have been greatly increased under the fostering care of Mr. Rose.* From the Hotel at Christ-Church, which is entirely new built, and fitted up with every convenience that can be found in a private house, is a beautiful view of the Sea, and of the Needle Rocks at the west end of the Isle of Wight.

The BAY or HARBOUR of Christ-Church is spacious; but, from various local causes, it is too shallow and dangerous to be frequented by vessels that draw more than five feet and a half of water. This is chiefly occasioned by a bar or ledge of sand, that extends from the point called Hengistbury Head, on the Hampshire side, to St. Christopher's Cliff, in the Isle of Wight. The situation of this bar is occasionally shifted, and that from two circumstances; either a succession of heavy rains, which increase the force of the waters discharged into the Bay by the rivers Avon and Stour, or by sea storms attended by southerly winds. Another circumstance peculiar to this Harbour, and the neighbouring Port of Poole, in Dorsetshire, is that of every tide producing two high waters. This phenomenon, so inexplicable from the general laws of tides, is occasioned by the situation of this coast with respect to the Isle of Wight, and from the contraction of the channel by the jutting out of the point of land on which Hurst Castle stands. The tide flows into this channel from the west; and though at Hurst Castle it sets in with uncommon violence, it does not meet the tide that passes round the Island, till it has reached Spithead: now the passage being too narrow for all the water to pass through, the time of high water at Hengistbury Head, is of course much earlier than either at Portsmouth or Chichester; at the full and change of the moon, the difference is three hours and a half. When the water begins to ebb, by flowing off from the west, the contraction in the channel at Hurst Castle operates in a contrary direction; and by confining the

* The Bill for regulating Benefit Societies, and placing the property they might possess on a secure footing, was chiefly drawn up by this gentleman, assisted by communications from a Committee of Delegates chosen by the Societies themselves; and was afterwards passed into an act, through his attention and influence.

the water that has spread itself over the whole surface of the Southampton Water, and of the channel within the Island, gives the water in Christ-Church Bay, an opportunity of flowing off much quicker, by which means it becomes so low, that the water that now pours through with great velocity at Hurst Castle, is sufficient to produce a second rise in Christ-Church and Poole Harbours, of nearly three feet.*

HENGISTBURY HEAD, generally called *Christ-Church Head* by seamen, from its apparent connection with that Church, as viewed from the sea, is a bold head-land, or promontory, forming the western termination of Christ-Church Bay. About a mile from the extremity of the point, the cliff dips for a considerable distance, and the estuary of the Stour and Avon is there only separated from the sea by a narrow neck of land. Across this, at the narrowest point of communication, is an ancient *Entrenchment*, consisting of a fosse, and double rampart; its whole length being about 630 yards. The outer rampart has been formed by the earth thrown up from the ditch; the innermost is the most considerable, and, from the bottom of the fosse, measures about eight yards in perpendicular height. It has three entrances; the most northern of which is flanked by two irregular mounds: between this and the middle entrance, the works are the most perfect; the southern extremity is partly obliterated by the drifted sand-hills, which are heaped on this coast. Near the northern termination is a large barrow, in which human bones, and an urn, have been found. From the name of this promontory being so evidently formed from Saxon appellations, it seems extremely probable, that the Entrenchment was of Saxon origin; though some have attributed it to the Danes, as the Harbour was so peculiarly well adapted to shelter their small vessels.

On **ST. CATHERINE'S HILL**, (a *ridge* of hills so called,) about one mile and a half north of Christ-Church, and a mile west from the Avon, "is an exploratory Camp, fifty-five yards square, double trenched on every side, except the south, with three entrances.

* For additional particulars concerning the Harbour and Tides of Christ-Church, see Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 169, 171.

trances. About twenty yards from the east end of the north side, a small rampart runs south, and at length unites with the south front: the east side seems to have been continued sixty yards north, till it is crossed by another line. Six small mounts are scattered round this Camp: and not far from the foot of the hill, are two large barrows, one of which was found to contain some human bones. About 300 yards north of the last mentioned line, is an elliptical earth-work, measuring thirty-five yards by twenty-five.* Other remains of Entrenchments may be traced in this vicinity.

RINGWOOD

Is a small town, of considerable antiquity, situated on the east side of the Avon, which here spreads frequently over the meadows, into a broad sheet, studded with small islands. This, as appears from the Domesday Book, was, in the Saxon times, a place of considerable importance, and apparently, of greater value than even Thuinam, or Christ-Church. Here Camden has erroneously placed the *Regnum* of the Itinerary, which other antiquaries, with greater probability, have fixed at Chichester. The inhabitants are principally employed in the manufacture of woollen cloths, and stockings; and in the making of strong beer and ale: the Ringwood beer has obtained much celebrity. According to the returns under the act of 1801, the population of this town amounted to 3222; the number of houses to 693. The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth is said, by several writers, to have been taken in a field near Ringwood, after his defeat at Sedgemoor; but this is a mistake, the place of his seizure being the Woodlands, in Dorsetshire.†

At ELLINGHAM, to the north of Ringwood, was a *Cell*, founded by William de Salariis, in the reign of Henry the Second, and made subordinate to the Abbey of St. Saviour Le Vicompte, in Normandy: its possessions, together with the parochial tythes, were granted to Eton College by Henry the Sixth.
Some

* Gough's Additions to Camden, from Archæologia, Vol. V.

† See Beauties, Vol. IV. p. 436.

Some remains of the ancient building is supposed to exist in the nave of the Church: the altar-piece displays a fine painting of the Day of Judgment, which was given to the parish by the late Lord Windsor, whose ancestor, Brigadier Windsor, brought it from Port St. Mary, in the Bay of Cadiz, where the troops employed in an expedition in the year 1702, made good their landing, and, among other excesses, ransacked several churches, from one of which this picture was brought. A plain stone in the Church-yard, is inscribed to the memory of DAME ALICIA LISLE, whom the blood-thirsty Jeffreys condemned to be executed in her old age, on a charge of harboring known rebels, in her mansion at Moyles Court in this parish.* The sentence was reversed on the Restoration.

MOYLES COURT, an ancient seat of the Lisle family, is a good building, standing in a pleasant, but small park. This family derived their name from the Isle of Wight, where, and in Hampshire, they had large estates. John, called *de Insula Vecta*, was summoned by that name to the House of Lords in the reign of Edward the Second. Colonel John Lisle, husband of the above Alicia, was one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal in the time of Cromwell; and also a Judge on the trial of Charles the First: this was doubtless the occasion of the unprincipled condemnation and murder of his widow, though she herself was a known loyalist, and had a son in the King's army, that fought against the Duke at Sedgemoor. The Colonel, who had retired to the Continent on the eve of the Restoration, was proscribed by the Parliament of Charles the Second, and shot dead at Lausanne, in Switzerland, by three ruffians engaged for the purpose by some of the royal family. The grand-daughter of this ill-fated couple married Lord James Russel, fifth son of the first Duke of Bedford, and brother to the amiable but unhappy Lord Russel.†

FORDINGBRIDGE,

* See under Winchester, p. 48.

† Noble's Memoirs, Vol. I. p. 374.

FORDINGBRIDGE,

A SMALL town on the north-west side of the Avon, is mentioned in the Domesday Book, under the name of *Forde*, and is there recorded to have a Church, and two mills. Here is a manufactory of checks and bed-ticks, and a calico-printing ground. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 2335; the number of houses to 461.

At GOD'S HILL, formerly *Godmanescap*, about two miles from Fordingbridge, is an ancient *Encampment*, defended on one side by a double trench and ramparts, and secured on the other by the steepness of the hill, which is overgrown with oaks.

TATCHBURY MOUNT is supposed to have been an ancient military station; and tradition records it as the site of a Royal hunting seat. The vallations may yet be traced from the terrace that surrounds the area. Here is a neat mansion and plantations, late in the occupation of Charles Connelly, Esq. The prospects beheld from this eminence are very fine, particularly those which include the Southampton Water.

PAULTONS, a seat of Lord Viscount Mendip, embraces a circumference of about five miles of beautiful wooded country. The grounds were laid out by Brown, and present a pleasing specimen of his skill, the area being judiciously opened into ample lawns, where too thickly crowded with timber: the house is in a low and secluded situation.

About one mile south of Romsey is BROADLANDS, the seat of Lord Viscount Palmerston, whose father, the late Lord Palmerston, purchased it of the St. Barbe family, who had possessed it nearly two centuries; the last of that name who resided here, was Sir John St. Barbe, Bart. who died in the year 1723. The house is a neat edifice of white brick, standing on the eastern side of the river Test, which flows through the park: it was nearly rebuilt by the late Lord Palmerston, who was ranked among the most eminent of the connoisseurs of his time. The collection of paintings made by this nobleman, and preserved in this mansion,

is

is extremely fine: the following may be enumerated with the most beautiful.

An Old Man's Head, with a ruff and a large hat, half length; Vandyck.

An Old Man's Head, with a long flowing white beard; Gerard Douw: extremely high-finished, and bright.

An Old Man's Head; Rembrandt.

The Descent from the Cross; Dominichino; copied from Daniel de Volterro.

Last Communion of St. Francis; Rubens.

A Forge, with Smiths hammering red-hot Iron, which darts rays of fire through the picture; Wright, of Derby.

The Last Supper; P. Veronese; a sketch for the great picture given by the Republic of Venice to Lewis the Fourteenth.

Young Man's Head; Carracci.

Two Landscapes, with Figures; N. Poussin.

The Children in the Wood; Sir Joshua Reynolds.

A large Landscape, with Figures; Sal. Rosa.

Landscape; Ruysdael; very fine.

The Infant Academy; Sir Joshua Reynolds: this beautiful picture was bequeathed by the artist to the late Lord Palmerston.

A Sea Piece, with Ruins; Claude Lorraine.

Sea View; Louthembourg.

Landscape, with Figures of the Holy Family; Claude Lorraine.

Landscape, with Men and Horses; Wouvermans.

ROMSEY

Is a large and ancient town, situated in a flat part of the county, and surrounded by pleasant meadows, which are rendered extremely productive by the overflowing waters of the river Test, or Anton. Here was a considerable ABBEY, founded for Benedictine Nuns, by Edward the Elder, whose daughter, Elfleda, was the first Abbess. This foundation was enlarged by King Edgar, whose son, Edmund, was buried in the Abbey Church. All the first Abbesses were of Royal birth, and became so distinguished

for their holy lives, as to be regarded as saints. About the year 992, the Abbey was plundered by the Danes; but the Nuns, relics, and chief valuables, had been previously removed to Winchester for safety, by the Abbess Elwina.

In the Domesday Book, is a list of some of the possessions of this Abbey, which is there called the Abbey *de Romesyg*. In the year 1085, Christina, a cousin to Edward the Confessor, took the veil here; and to her care was entrusted the education of Matilda, daughter of Malcolm, King of Scotland, and afterwards wife to Henry the First. In the next reign, Mary, daughter to the King, (Stephen,) became Abbess here; but was afterwards prevailed on to quit her charge, by Matthew, younger son of Theodoric, Earl of Flanders, to whom she was married. This triumph of the rights of Nature over the shackles of superstitious piety, gave so much offence to the Papal See, that all the thunders of the Church were levelled at the devoted pair; and the unfortunate Mary was at length constrained to return to her Convent, even after she had borne her husband two children. The benefactors to this Abbey were numerous; and its possessions, at the Dissolution, were, according to Dugdale, estimated at the annual value of 339l. 10s. 10¼d. Speed records its yearly income at 528l. 8s. 10¼d. In the thirty-fifth of Henry the Eighth, the site of the Abbey was granted to the inhabitants of the town; and three years afterwards to John Bellow, and R. Bigot.*

But little of the nunnery buildings are now standing, except the venerable and interesting ABBEY CHURCH; the other parts are chiefly confined to a few fragments of walls. The Church is a spacious fabric, in the form of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection of the nave and transept. It bears "various evidences," observes Mr. Carter, who has engraved some of the monuments, and capitals, for his *Specimens of ancient Sculpture and Painting*, "both within and without, of the period in which it was erected, which was the middle of the tenth century." Since that period, however, parts of it have been rebuilt, or altered into the
pointed

* Tanner's Notitia.

pointed style; and the whole exhibits a very instructive series of examples in the different kinds of architecture, that have successively prevailed in this country. Several ancient memorials of the Abbesses that have been interred here, still remain. Here is also a very elegant inscription to the memory of FRANCES, Viscountess Palmerston, who died in child-bed in the year 1769; and a flat stone in remembrance of Sir William Petty, ancestor to the Marquis of Lansdown, inscribed thus:

HERE LIES SIR WILLIAM PETTY.*

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On

* Another remarkable monument in this Church was erected for John St. Barbe, Esq. (who represented the county of Southampton in Parliament, A. D. 1654,) and his lady: it is ornamented with their busts, and the effigies, at full length, of their four sons. Both husband and wife died in the year 1659. On the monument is the following curious inscription.*

An Epitaph upon JOHN ST. BARBE, Esq. the sonne of HENRY ST. BARBE, Esq. and GRISSELL his wife, the daughter of JOHN PYNSENT, Esq. He about the 42nd yeare of his age, and she the 22nd yeare of her age, leaving fower sonns, Henry, John, Francis, and Edward, slept in the Lord.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Earth's Rich in mines of pretious dust | (4) whom nature, wedlock, grace, did tie |
| (2) Since in her bowels rest these just | (5) and faithful ones |
| (3) In one fast chain of vanity | (6) whose silent bones |
| (7) dead here doe rest, yet left not earth | (9) because such righteouse and their seed |
| (8) but brought fower sonns to perfect birth | (10) In fame and state |
| (11) shall flourish here and shall in deed | (12) triumph o'er fate. |

An anagram upon their Names { John } St. Barbe.
 { Grissell }

Be in shares in blest glorie.

The Memory of the wicked shall rott, but the remembrance of the just shall live for ever.

* The figures are annexed to denote the reading.

On the outer wall of the south transept, is a singular piece of sculpture, in basso-relievo, representing Our Saviour on the Cross; and near it is a square hole, or recess, in the wall, the use of which is unknown: at a little distance is a finely ornamented Saxon arch, which formerly communicated between the Church and cloisters. The outside of the north transept displays marks of cannon-balls, which are traditionally said to have been fired against it during the Civil Wars, for the purpose of destroying the building.*

The Corporation of Romsey consists of a Mayor, Recorder, six Aldermen, twelve Burgesses, and inferior officers. The *Audit-House*, is a large square building, near the centre of the town, standing on piers, with an open space beneath for the market-people: it was erected by the late Lord Palmerston in the year 1744. The *Town-Hall* is a small old building, near the Hundred Bridge, which divides Romsey-Infra from Romsey-Extra. A large Meeting House, for Presbyterians, was built here during the last year. Three small *Schools* have been established at Romsey, respectively by Sir William Petty; — St. Barbe; and Mrs. Nowes.

This town had formerly a considerable clothing trade; but that business is now principally reduced to the manufacture of a few shalloons: additional employment is furnished to the inhabitants by some paper works, and a sacking manufactory. The population of the two parishes of Romsey-Infra, and Romsey-Extra, as ascertained under the late act, was 4277; the number of houses was 872.

SIR WILLIAM PETTY, already mentioned as having been buried in Romsey Church, was a native of this town, where his father pursued the occupation of a Clothier. He was born on the sixteenth of May, 1623, and, from his earliest years, manifested uncommon ingenuity, acquiring a ready knowledge of the principles of every trade, the operations of which he had opportunity to inspect.

* Very copious materials have been collected for a History of this Church, together with the Abbey and town of Romsey, by Dr. Lathom, who resides here.

inspect. Nor was his skill in the practical branches less evident, as he quickly attained the facility of an experienced workman, and at the age of twelve, had made several curious machines with his own hands, in imitation of those employed in the clothing trade. His acquaintance with languages was equally uncommon; at fifteen, he was master of French, Latin, and Greek; and had also attained a competent knowledge of those branches of mathematical science which relate to navigation. Medicine and surgery, however, appear to have been favorite studies; and, to increase his acquaintance with anatomy, he went to the Schools in France. On his return, he obtained a command in the navy, and for some time bent his attention to ship-building. In 1648, he taught anatomy and chemistry at Oxford, where he was created Doctor of Physic; in 1650, he was made Professor of Anatomy in that University, and a Member of the College of Physicians in London. Two years afterwards, he was appointed Physician to the army in Ireland, in which country he continued nine years, and acquired considerable affluence. Independent of the time employed in the requisite attentions to the duties of his profession, he found sufficient leisure to pursue, and to develope, the subtle principles of political economy, a science but then in its infancy, and even now, but too greatly subjected to the prejudices of education. In 1661, he was knighted by Charles the Second; the following year, he published his celebrated Treatise on Taxes and Contributions. In 1663, he constructed a double-bottomed ship, for the purpose of sailing against wind and tide; but this invention, though generally admitted to be extremely ingenious, was not attended with sufficient success to ensure its adoption. His death was occasioned by a mortification in his foot, and occurred on the sixteenth of December, 1687. At this period, his property is supposed to have produced a yearly income of 15,000*l*. His books and manuscripts, now in the possession of the Marquis of Lansdown, were extremely select and valuable. One instance of his skill is deserving of record, from its singularity; this is the circumstance of his restoring, with three other practitioners, the suspended animation of a woman, who had been hanged the usual time, at Oxford.

Another native of Romsey, whose name has acquired some eminence in the scale of literature, was Mr. GILES JACOB, author of the Law Dictionary, and of the Lives and Characters of English Dramatic Poets. He died in 1744, at the age of fifty-four.

MOTTISFONT-HOUSE, the seat of Sir Charles Mill, Bart. is a spacious and venerable edifice, occupying a portion of the site of a PRIORY of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, founded by William Briweré, in the beginning of the reign of King John.* In the reign of Henry the Seventh, the number of religious persons being reduced from eleven, its original establishment, to three, the King procured a bull from Pope Alexander to suppress it; yet this was not acted on, and it continued till the Dissolution, at which period its income according to Dugdale, amounted to 124l. 3s. 5d. annually; but according to Speed, to 167l. 15s. 8d.

The Lord Sandys "that lately died," observes Leland in his Itinerary, "made an exchange with the King, and gave Chelsey by Westmistre for Motesfont Priory in Hamptonshire, wher he began to translate the old building of the Priory, and to make a fair maner-place, but the work is lefte onperfecte." After the sale, in the year 1654, of the *Vine* near Basingstoke, the ancient seat of the Sandys, this became the principal residence of the family, in whose possession it continued till about the year 1700, when Edwyn, the last male heir, dying without issue, the estates were divided among his six sisters, and Mottisfont fell to the share of Margaret, who had married Sir John Mill, Bart. of Tatchbury, in this county, from whom the present possessor is descended.

In Mottisfont-House, a curious ancient painting is preserved that appears to have belonged to the Priory, and is supposed to represent in compartments, two events in the life of the celebrated Thomas Aquinas, whom the Romish calender has dignified with the title of Saint. In one compartment he is represented as receiving a visit from St. Peter and St. Paul, after having passed three days and nights in fasting and prayer, in order to discover the
meaning

* Tanner's Notitia; Speed, and some other writers, have attributed this foundation to Flambard, Bishop of Durham.

meaning of a particular passage in Isaiah; the other represents him as busy in writing, while the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, is dictating at his ear; and his friend Bonaventure observing him at the door, which stands partly open. The gardens and pleasure-grounds at Mottisfont are very commodious, and embellished with several fine plane trees.

KING'S SOMBORNE, or *Somberne Regis*, now a small village, was part of the ancient demesne belonging to the Crown previous to the Conquest, and is recorded, in the Domesday Book, to have two Churches; but one of these, most probably, belonged to some dependent manor. John of Gaunt is said to have had a seat, or palace, here; and the tradition is supported, by the appearance of a large mansion in ruins, in a vicinity abounding in yew-trees, which appear to have been assiduously cultivated about his age, for the use of archery. The surrounding grounds are laid out in a peculiar manner; one part assumes the form of a parallelogram, with earthen banks thrown up nearly round it, and about four or five feet in height. About 100 yards from the Church, is a bank of earth, supposed to have been a butt for the exercise of archers: between half and three quarters of a mile distant, is also an area of about thirty acres, which tradition obscurely notices as a large fish-pond, now converted into water meadows; and on the opposite side of a brook, that washes this ground, is a large tract of about 400 acres, called the Park; which is now held under the Duchy of Lancaster, by lease, renewable after a given period. In the Church at Somborne Regis, within a recess on the north side of the chancel, is an ancient tomb, with a mutilated effigies of either an ecclesiastic, or a lady; the inscription, which appears to have been in the Saxon character, is nearly defaced: the arch exhibits the trefoil ornament. This parish includes the chapelries of Stockbridge and Little Somborne; formerly also, there was a Chapel of Ease at Compton, but this has been long destroyed. LITTLE SOMBORNE is the property of Walter Smith, Esq. brother to Mrs. Fitzherbert; but is at present rented by William Powlett Powlett, Esq.

The *Roman Road*, between Winchester and Old Sarum, passes this village, taking its course from the West Gate of the former city, by the following places: Cock-Lane, St. Cross Corner, Pitt-Fields, Pitt-Down, Garlick Farm, Somborne, South-Field, Horsebridge, Bossington Mill, Buckholt Warren, Winterslow, and Pitten-Field and Down. The vestiges of this road may not attract the incurious eye, but are still sufficiently conspicuous, through their whole course, to engage the observation of the antiquary.

In the twelfth and fifteenth Iters of Antoninus, an intermediate station, named *BRIGE*, occurs between *Venta Belgarum*, and *Sor-biodunum*, which Camden supposes to be indicated by the name of *BROUGHTON*, (Borough-town,) a small village, about one mile to the north of the Roman Road. Salmon places this station on a hill near Broughton, observing, that the eminence must have been the site of the fortress; and Mr. Gale, in a manuscript note, quoted in Gough's Camden, says, that in the year 1719, he saw very large banks, the remains of this town, in a wood near Broughton, in the way to Salisbury. The appellation *Brige* is distinctly preserved in the name of *Horsebridge*, which lies immediately on the Roman Road; but its situation is very low, and closely bordering on the marshes.

In Broughton Church-yard, is a tomb inscribed to the memory of Miss *ANNE STEELE*, a native of this village, who published two volumes of *Poems*, on sacred and moral subjects, under the assumed name of *Theodosia*. Another Miss Steele, of the same respectable family, and now the wife of the Rev. Mr. Dunscombe, has also published a poem, entitled *Danebury Hill*, from the name of an eminence north-west of Stockbridge; on which are the evident traces of an ancient Camp.

STOCKBRIDGE,

THOUGH a chapelry to King's Somborne, is a small market-town, situated on the east side of the Test, on the road from Winchester to Salisbury, and chiefly consisting of a range of houses on each side of the highway. The inhabitants are principally supported by

the passage of travellers; this being a considerable thoroughfare, though possessing but little trade of its own: the inns and public-houses are numerous. A new bridge was built here a few years ago. Stockbridge is a borough by prescriptive right; but it does not appear to have returned any members to Parliament till the first of Queen Elizabeth: the right of election is possessed by all who pay church and poor-rates; the number of voters is fifty-seven.* The government of the town is vested in a Bailiff, Constable, and Sergeant at Mace. On Houghton Down, about two miles westward, is a good *Race Course*. The population, as returned in 1801, was 642; the number of houses 161.

DANEbury HILL, erroneously called *Deanbury* Hill in Milne's large map of this county, is a long elevated ridge, running nearly east and west, and terminating abruptly in a point, or head. On this is a circular *Entrenchment*, in good preservation, inclosing an extensive area, with very high ramparts. The entrance is by a winding course, protected by great banks, and very strong. The ditch on the east and north sides, where the ground is most abrupt and steep, is single; on the west and south-west, where the ground is more level, there is an outer work at a little distance. On the west and north-west of this Camp are several barrows: one of them, about a mile distant, has the name of Canute's Barrow.

Five miles north-west from Danebury Hill, is another considerable *Camp*, occupying a part of the summit of QUARLEY MOUNT, and supposed to be the opposing camp to that of Danebury. On the south side, the works are quadruple; the outward trenches are sixty paces asunder, and from the second to the third, the space measures thirty-six paces. The east side is ploughed up; the other sides are of the respective admeasurements of 210, 240, and 290 paces. Various tumuli are scattered over the downs in this vicinity.

RED-RICE, the seat of Henry Errington, Esq. about two miles northward of Danebury Hill, is pleasantly embosomed in woods, and surrounded by open downs.

P 4

About

* In the History of the Boroughs, Vol. II. p. 73, is a singular anecdote of the method by which Sir Richard Steele obtained his election for this borough, in opposition to the Court, in the reign of Queen Anne.

About three miles west from Andover, and within the out-hundred belonging to that town, is WEY-HILL, the site of an annual fair, which originated in a revel kept on the Sunday before Michaelmas-day, and was afterwards rendered legal by a charter, granted in the forty-first of Queen Elizabeth to the Corporation of Andover, and confirmed by Charles the Second. The fair commences on the day before Old Michaelmas-day, for the sale of sheep, of which upwards of 140,000 have been sold here in one day. On Michaelmas-day the farmers hire their servants, and on the next the sale of hops begins; and the fair continues a more or less number of days after, according to the quantities of this commodity that may be exposed for sale. A vast number of horses are also sold here, particularly cart-colts; together with great quantities of cheese, clothes, and various other kind of wares. Different places are appropriated for the hops; one of them is called Farnham Row, from its being assigned exclusively to the use of the dealers in Farnham hops. The Bailiff of Andover holds a court of pie-powder during the fair, and receives two-pence from each booth, or standing. The fair generally lasts six or seven days, and is attended by persons from almost every part of England. The day before the commencement of Wey-Hill fair, a very considerable one is held at Appleshaw, about three miles northward.

ANDOVER,

A LARGE, respectable, and ancient town, situated on the borders of the downs, near the Anton River, is supposed, by Dr. Stukeley, to be the *Andaoreon* of Ravennas; and probably with truth, as several ancient Encampments may be traced in the vicinity: the Roman Road from Winchester to Cirencester, also passes near the town, and is yet visible in Harewood Copse. Here, in the year 994, was made the treaty between Anlaf, the Dane, and King Ethelred, by which the former engaged never to re-commence hostilities against the English. In the Domesday Book, *Andover* is recorded as being held by the King, and previously by Edward the Confessor; as having six mills, and woods which furnish pannage for 100 hogs.

The

The *Church* is a spacious structure, standing at the north end of the town, and consisting of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a transept on the north, and a low tower rising from the centre: at the west end is a fine semicircular arched door-way, with zig-zag mouldings. This Church existed in the time of the Conqueror, by whom it was given to the Abbey of St. Florence, at Salmur, in Anjou, and afterwards made a cell to that foundation. On the final dissolution of the Alien Priories, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was given to St. Mary's College, near Winchester. Here was also an *Hospital* for brethren and sisters, founded as early as the time of Henry the Third.

The Corporation boasts an antiquity as remote as the reign of King John; but, however this may be, the charter under which it is now governed, was granted by Queen Elizabeth. The corporate officers consist of twelve capital Burgesses, from whom a Bailiff, and two other Magistrates, are chosen annually, and twelve Assistants: here is also a Steward, Recorder, and Town-Clerk. The earliest return to Parliament, was made in the time of Edward the First; but after the first of Edward the Second, no members were sent till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth, since which the returns have been regular. The right of election has been long assumed by the Corporation; the number of voters is twenty-four. The *Town-Hall* is a large modern building of brick, with an open space beneath for the markets. Among the charitable institutions are, an *Hospital* for six poor men, founded by John Pollen, Esq. who represented Andover in several Parliaments in the reign of William the Third; a *Free-School*, founded by John Hanson, Esq. in 1569; and a *Charity-School* for thirty boys. The population, in the year 1801, was returned at 3304; and the number of houses at 679: the latter are principally ranged in two long streets. This is a great thoroughfare; a considerable trade is also carried on here in shalloons and malt. Besides two or three *Encampments* in the immediate neighbourhood of Andover, there is a large one about two miles to the south-west, on the summit of Bury Hill.

At WHORWELL, or WHERWELL, three miles south-east from Andover, was a NUNNERY, founded by Elfrida, second wife
of

of King Edgar, in atonement for the murder of Edward the Martyr, at Corfe Castle;* and also for that of Ethelwold, her first husband, whom Edgar is recorded to have slain, in a wood near Whorwell, that he might obtain her in marriage. In this Nunnery, Elfrida took the veil, and was buried. Many privileges were granted to the foundation by Pope Gregory the Ninth; and its possessions were so numerous, that their annual value, at the Dissolution, was estimated at 339l. 8s. 7d. according to Dugdale; and at 403l. 12s. 10d. according to Speed. The site of the Nunnery was granted to Sir Thomas West, Lord Delawar.†

HURSTBOURNE PARK, the beautiful seat of John-Charles Wallop Fellows, Earl of Portsmouth, is about one mile to the west of Whitchurch. The mansion stands on elevated ground, commanding various extensive and fine prospects to the south and north: it consists of a centre and two uniform wings, connected with the body of the house by colonnades: in the eastern wing is the Library and Chapel; the other contains the offices and servants' apartments. In the centre part are several noble rooms, decorated with numerous paintings, some of which are the productions of the best masters. This structure was erected by Mr. Meadows, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt. From the south or principal front, the ground gradually slopes to a large piece of water, which winds through the Park: the latter is delightfully wooded, and abounds with fine deer and timber, particularly to the east of the house, where the beech and oak have attained great size, and are very flourishing.

The noble owner of this estate, is descended from an ancient Saxon family, who possessed, and derived their name from the manor of Upper Wallop, on the river of that name in this county, at least as early as the time of Edward the Confessor: '*Quatuor Angli tenent,*' says the Domesday Book, '*de Rege, Wallope; pater eorum tenuit, in alodium, de Rege Edwardo.*' This family have for many generations been intrusted with important offices, and distinguished for their loyalty. Matthew de Wallop had the custody

* See under Corfe Castle, Vol. IV. p. 392—396.

† Tanner's Notitia.

custody of Winchester Castle in the time of King John. John de Wallop had a grant of lands in Ireland bestowed on him for his faithful services, by Edward the First. Sir Robert de Wallop was appointed one of the council to settle the differences between the King and the Barons, in the fifty-first of Henry the Third. Sir Robert Wallop, who was several times Sheriff of Southampton in the reign of Henry the Seventh, was, in the fifth of Henry the Eighth, nominated, by Act of Parliament, as a proper and "discreet person" for assisting in collecting a subsidy of 163,000*l.* by a poll-tax. Sir John Wallop, his nephew, and heir, afterwards Knight of the Garter, was greatly distinguished for his martial exploits, and particularly for the destruction of several villages and ships on the coast of Normandy, in revenge for the French setting fire to the town of Brighthelmstone. He was also employed in several important embassies, and entrusted with various military commands of the first magnitude. His nephew, Sir Henry Wallop, Knt. was eminently distinguished for his conduct in Ireland in the time of Queen Elizabeth, who, besides conferring on him other trusts, constituted him one of the Lords Justices, in that country, where he acquired great property. John Wallop, fifth in descent from Sir Henry, and first *Earl* of Portsmouth, was created a Peer, by letters patent of George the First; the preamble to which bears a very dignified and honorable testimony to his talents and his virtues: the Earldom of Portsmouth was conferred on him by George the Second, in April 1743. His grandson, the present and third Earl, assumed the name of Fellows, by permission of his present Majesty, on acceding to the property of his uncle by the maternal line.

WHITCHURCH

Is a small straggling town, situated in a bottom under the Chalk Hills, and possessing the rights of a borough by prescription. Its government is vested in a Mayor, who is chosen annually at the court-leet of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, to whom the manor belongs. The first return to Parliament was made in the
twenty-

twenty-seventh of Queen Elizabeth. The members are elected by the freeholders, who, at the period of election, are nominally about *seventy*; but as all the freeholds appear to be possessed by *two* noblemen, the real number of electors must be regarded as the same. The population of this parish, as ascertained in 1801, was 1275; the number of houses 224: the laboring classes are chiefly employed in the woollen trade, and in agriculture.

At FREEFOLK, a small hamlet east of Whitchurch, are the *Paper Mills*, and seat, belonging to John Portal Brydges, Esq. where the paper for Bank notes has been manufactured ever since the reign of George the First. At LAVERSTOCK, adjoining, is the seat of William Portal, Esq. and in the neighbouring parish of OVERTON, on an eminence, is a handsome new-built House, with a lofty Portico, the property and residence of — Jarvis, Esq. In this village a Silk Mill has been established.

LICH-FIELD appears, from its name, to have been the site of a battle, as this compound literally signifies a field of carcasses. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Silchester, is very visible on the downs of this and the adjoining parishes of Sydmonton and King's-clere: it is chiefly composed of flint, and is termed, by the country people, the *Devil's Bank*.

CRUXEASTON, once famous for its *Grotto*, constructed by nine sisters, of the name of Lisle, and celebrated by the lines of Pope, is about two miles from High-clere, on the turnpike road between Andover and Newbury. Only the shell of the Grotto remains; the estate having passed into other hands, it was suffered to go to ruin. The front was of flint; the interior studded with shells, scoræ of iron ore, and other substances: it contained a seat for each sister, with a niche for the presiding magician. Pope's lines upon it were as follow:

Here shunning idleness at once and praise,
This radiant pile nine rural sisters raise;
The glittering emblem of each spotless dame,
Pure as her soul, and shining as her fame:—

Beauty

Beauty which nature only can impart,
 And such a polish as disgraces art;
 But fate dispos'd them in this humble sort,
 And hid in deserts what would charm a court.

The Hon. Nicholas Herbert, son of Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, also wrote some verses on the same subject :

So much the building entertains my sight,
 Nought but the builders can give more delight;
 In them the master-piece of Nature's shown—
 In this I see Art's master-piece in stone.
 Oh! Nature, Nature, thou hast conquer'd Art;
 She charms the sight alone, but you the heart.

Edward Lisle, Esq. the father of the nine sisters, died at Crux-easton, in 1722. He had twenty children, seventeen of whom survived him: he was author of a work intituled, "Observations upon Agriculture." One of his sons, Dr. Thomas Lisle, was author of *Porsemia*, King of Russia, and other ingenious productions, preserved in Dodsley's Collection: he died Rector of Burgh-clere, in 1765-6. Margaret, the youngest sister, possessed great talents for painting; three of her pieces in crayons are preserved by Lord Carnarvon; two of them at High-clere House, are copies of ancient portraits of Sir Richard and Lady Kingsmill, admirably executed. On the trees of the grove surrounding the Grotto, she painted the portraits of several of her acquaintance, in a manner which produced a singular effect, as they appeared to form parts of the trees themselves. This lady is said to have died two or three years ago, between ninety and a hundred years of age. The derivation of Cruxeaston is curious, as it appears in the Domesday Book; "*In Andevre Hundred Terra Croch Venatoris. Isdem Croch tenet Estone.*"

HIGH-CLERE, the manor and residence of Henry Herbert, Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Porchester, was formerly parcel of the Bishopric of Winchester. In the Domesday Book, it is said, '*Semper fuit in Ecclesiam tempore Regis Edwardi:*' and in the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica* of Pope Nicholas, made in the year 1291,

it

it is thus stated as making one property, with other manors; ‘*Clercui hamelet de Newinton, (now Newtown;) Widihaie, (East Woodhay;) Armereworth, (Ashmansworth;) Estnieswell, (Itchingswell;) and Burclere, (Burghclere;) and with them computed at 210l. 1s. 2½d.*’

The Bishops of Winchester had a House and Park here, at which they occasionally dwelt. Several of the public acts of the celebrated William of Wykeham, are dated at High-clere; and in a Codicil to his Will, he bequeaths five pounds to the Minister; and directs his executors to reward the Park-keeper according to their discretion. The bailiwick of High-clere continued in possession of the Bishopric till the reign of Edward the Sixth, when it was dismembered by John Poynt, Bishop of Winchester, who granted to the King, on the fourth of June, 1552, in the fifth year of his reign, the manors and free warrens of High-clere and Burgh-clere, with the advowsons and rights of patronage to the Churches. The September following, the King granted these manors to William Fitz-William, Esq. afterwards Sir William, one of the Gentlemen of his bed-chamber. This grant, with many others of a similar nature, was annulled by Queen Mary; but again established by Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign.*

This

* Strype, in his Annals, gives the following account of this transaction: “Feb. 15, 1558, a Bill was brought in the Commons House, for restoring of the patentees of the Bishop of Winchester’s lands, of which lands they had been thrown out in Queen Mary’s reign, and their patents evacuated; and the said lands procured back to Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester, and his successors. This Bill was (Feb. 18) read a second time; and again ten days after, (Feb. 28,) the Bill was amended, or rather renewed, and now entituled, a Bill for Assurance of Lands, late Parcel of the Bishoprick of Winchester, granted to King Edward the Sixth, and by his Letters Patent, granted to the Earl of Pembroke, Sir William Fitz-William, Sir Philip Hobby, Sir John Mason, Sir Henry Seymour, Sir Henry Nevill, and Sir Richard Sackville: the Bill was now read a first time.” Strype proceeds to relate the unsuccessful opposition of the Bishop of Winchester, (who, in opening his title, said, that these lands had been parcel of his Bishopric for 1300 years,) and the final passing of the Bill on the eighteenth of March.

This estate continued in possession of the assigns of Sir William Fitz-William till it was purchased by Sir Robert Sawyer, Attorney General to Charles the Second, and James the Second. He resided at High-clere, the latter years of his life, and was buried in the Parish Church, which he rebuilt. His only daughter, Margaret, married Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, the last Lord High Admiral of England; and by Sir R. Sawyer's Will, this property devolved upon her second son, the Hon. Robert Herbert; and on his death, without issue, in 1769, it came by succession to his nephew, the present Earl of Carnarvon, (son of William, fifth son of Thomas, Earl of Pembroke,) who has purchased of the Bishop of Winchester, under the act for the redemption of the land-tax, the manors of East Woodhay, Ashmansworth, Itchingswell, and Newtown, forming the remainder of the ancient bailiwick of High-clere.

The Mansion is situated on a rising ground, in a noble Park, upwards of thirteen miles in circumference. Part of it was built upon the old site, by the Hon. Robert Herbert; but it was greatly enlarged, and has received its present form from Lord Carnarvon. It is a brick structure, stuccoed, in a modern style of architecture, and more distinguished for elegance, than splendor of appearance; the Entrance Hall measures seventy feet, by twenty-four; the Library, thirty-three feet, by twenty-three: the Dining-Room is of the same extent as the Library; and the other apartments of proportionable size.

Various portraits are preserved in this House, with other good paintings, and cabinet pictures: the following may be selected as the principal.

CHARLES THE FIRST, on Horseback, the DUC D'EPERNON holding his Helmet; large as life, after Vandyck, by Old Stone.

LADY CARNARVON, and LORD PORCHESTER; Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Three Poor Children, whole lengths; Gainsborough.

LORD PORCHESTER as Bacchus; Sir J. Reynolds.

Holy Family, with Angels threading the Needle; Vandyck.

A Shipwreck; Mortimer.

Cupid

Cupid sleeping on Clouds; Sir J. Reynolds.

PHILIP, Earl of Pembroke, and his Family; three feet seven, by two feet eight; Vandyck. This was a marriage gift of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, to James Herbert, the third son, represented in the picture, and was given to the Earl of Carnarvon by Mrs. Ann Herbert, of Kingsey, the last descendant of that branch bearing the name of Herbert. It carries along with it clear evidence of having been painted by Vandyck, and may possibly have been the first executed, and have given rise to the large picture by this artist, which occupies the end of the Saloon at Wilton.

Dead Swan, Peacock, and other Birds; Weeninix.

PHILIP, Earl of Pembroke; Vandyck.

Dead Game; Weeninix.

Pirates dividing their Spoil; Mortimer.

But the chief glory of High-clere is its Park and Pleasure-grounds, of which, it may be truly observed, that few places of similar extent in the inland parts of the Kingdom, can boast of surface more varied, or scenery more interesting. It owes its present beauty to its noble owner. When it came into his Lordship's possession, part of it had been converted into a farm; it was divided into numerous inclosures; few trees remained, except in the hedge rows and woods; and the old Park was formed into a rabbit warren. It is now clothed with a profusion of foliage; and, from the judicious disposition of the plantations, the prospects are extremely improved. The most striking feature of the Park is *Sidon Hill*, the ascent of which begins about half a mile to the south from the House: the summit of this eminence boldly rises upwards of 400 feet in perpendicular height above the level of a neighbouring valley, and is crowned with a ruined arch, backed by venerable woods; the plantations on its sides are also disposed with great beauty; and the drives, which wind along to the summit, present various extensive views over the Park and surrounding country. Beacon Hill, to the south-east of this, and just without the Park Gate, forms a striking contrast to it, not a single tree appearing thereon. The entrance into the Park from Winchester, is between these hills, by an arched gateway, bearing a trophy of
arms

arms over the principal arch. On the opposite side of Sidon Hill is a castellated Lodge, "bosom'd high in tufted trees," of a triangular form, with a turret at each angle. The view from Tent Hill, a bold elevation on the northern side of the Park, with a grove on its summit, is very extensive. The House is seen at a mile and a half distance, with Sidon Hill, and its plantations, magnificently rising in the back-ground: in front is a most luxuriant display of wood and water. To the right, Milford Water appears in the distance; this extensive sheet derives peculiar charms from its secluded situation, and the venerable antiquity of the surrounding woods, in which it is completely enveloped. On this water is a pile of building, comprehending a Dining-Room, Kitchen, and other appendages. From this spot drives have been formed through the plantations to Clare Brow, where the prospect of the House, and surrounding scenery, is very fine. Extensive rides, admitting beautiful views, have also been made through Pen Wood, a large tract of oak, interspersed with abundance of hollies, many of them of unusual size. Several ornamental buildings have been erected in different parts of this demesne, which possesses many beauties that our limits compel us to pass unnoticed, though deserving of minute examination: the observer

From scene to scene, by random steps convey'd,
Admires the distant views, the secret shade;
Dwells on each spot; with eager eye devours
The woods, the lawns, the buildings, and the bowers;
New sweets, new joys, at every glance arise,
And every turn creates a fresh surprise.

LISLE'S PORSENNA.

BEACON HILL, mentioned in the preceding description, is remarkable for the ancient *Camp* which occupies its flat summit, and which, though so conspicuously situated, and in such excellent preservation, has scarcely been noticed by antiquaries. Camden only mentions it as a military fortification, surrounded by a ditch of great compass, and as the site of a Beacon; and Mr. Gough merely refers to the extent of the northern prospect. The form of the

Camp is irregular, the entrenchment following the outline of the Hill: the ditch is well preserved, and very deep where the ascent is most easy: the entrance is on the south side, where it is defended by two ravelins: within the area, are several vestiges of ancient huts, probably of British origin, as they are of circular form, rather elevated, with a small depression in the centre; and on removing the thick moss, appear pitched with flints: upon a ridge to the north is a turf elevation, apparently intended as an out-post.*

On a plain, about a mile from this Camp, are seven *tumuli*, or barrows, of considerable size; and three of much less elevation: some of each description have been opened by Lord Carnarvon. In the elevated barrow, there first appeared a large quantity of collected mould, occupying about half of its height; and next a great heap of flints, reaching to the surface of the down, whereon, under an arch of flints, burnt bones and ashes were found. In the low barrow, there was no accumulation either of mould or flints, and the bones and ashes were contained in holes made in the chalky sub-stratum of the downs. The circumference of the large barrows is bounded by a sort of ditch, the earth of which appears to have been thrown up in the centre. The largest barrow is about 100 yards in circumference, and ten or twelve feet high. In some of the barrows, charcoal, apparently of beech wood, was found. The centre of the largest of the low barrows is crossed by the turnpike road.

About one mile and a half eastward from Beacon Hill, on an eminence called LADLE HILL, is a circular *Encampment*, including an area of nearly eight acres; and at a little distance north-north-east, on the declivity of the Hill, is another small circular work, probably intended as an out-post; this is entirely pitched with flints. Southward of the larger Camp are three barrows.

CANHAM,

* The altitudes of Beacon Hill, Sidon Hill, and High-clere House, above the sea at low-water mark, are as follow: Beacon Hill, 900 feet; Sidon Hill, 942 feet, seven inches; High-clere House, 587 feet, nine inches. The height of Beacon Hill was taken by Captain (now Colonel) Mudge, during his Trigonometrical Survey; the other altitudes were ascertained by Baron Zach, Astronomer to the Duke of Saxo Gotha.

CANHAM, or **CANNONS LODGE**, two miles south-west of **Kings-clere**, in a hollow of the chalk downs, was built by Charles, Duke of Bolton: it was afterwards a residence of the Earl of **Mexborough**, and then of the late Duke of **Cumberland**, who kept part of his stud at this place. Here his Royal Highness frequently assembled a select party of friends, among whom were the celebrated **Foote**, and **Sir Francis Blake Delaval**; the former of whom broke his leg here: the memory of their exploits is still, and will long be, preserved in the neighbourhood. It has since been occupied many years by **Mr. Lade**, a well-known character in the annals of sporting. **Lord Bolton** is now demolishing the house, the site and vicinity of which are extremely barren and uninteresting.

SYDMONTON HOUSE, the residence of **Admiral Sir Robert Kingsmill**, was granted to his ancestors **John Kingsmill**, and **Constantia**, his wife, by **Henry the Eighth**, on the dissolution of the Monasteries: the building is irregular, it having been erected at different periods. Part of **Sydmonton**, comprehending 764 acres, belonged to the Abbey at **Romsey**, and pays only one acre of wheat, and one of barley, in lieu of rectorial tythes; and forty pounds annually in lieu of vicarial tythes.

KINGS-CLERE

Is a small place, of mean appearance, and only remarkable for having been a seat of the **West Saxon Kings**; though **Camden** mentions it as being a considerable market-town. The Church is a small stuccoed building, with a low tower, and has a monument erected in memory of the **Kingsmill** family. The number of inhabitants of this parish, in 1801, was returned at 1939; that of houses at 394. It is probable that the Palace of the **Saxon Sovereigns** was connected with **FREEMANTLE PARK**, a short distance to the south, as that is known to have been a Royal residence in **King John's** time, by the following passage in the *Calendarium Rotulorum Patentium*, of the 6th **King John**: "*Rx. Generalis Pardonatio Apud Freitmantell 15°. Apr. 16°. D°—Cives London: reddiderunt inimicis regis civitatem London: die dominica proxante festum*

Sancto Dunstani. Apud Frigidum Mantell 18°. Maij. In the twenty-fifth of Henry the Sixth, the keeping of Freemantle Park was granted to the famous William de la Pole, Earl and subsequently Duke of Suffolk. In Queen Elizabeth's time, it was still in possession of the Crown, as appears from an entry in the Civil List: "Freemantle, Hantshire, Keeper of the Park, fee, 4l. 11s. 3d. The herbage and pannage, fee, 11l." The Mansion, which stood in a very exposed and bleak situation, has been lately pulled down by — Blount, Esq. and the Park has been ploughed up, and converted into a farm.

SILCHESTER, the *Caer Seiont*, or *Segont*, of the Britons, and *Vindonum* of the Romans, is one of the most perfect of the ancient stations in the south of England. It is situated near the borders of Hampshire, adjoining Berks, and, from its elevated site, commands very extensive prospects over the surrounding country. Its name, *Caer Segont*, was obtained through its having been the chief city of the *Segontiaci*; and by this name it occurs on a stone dug up here, with the following imperfect inscription:*

DEO HER
SAEGON
T. TAMMON
SAEN. TAMMON
VITALIS
OB HONO

That this was a principal Roman station, is evinced not only by its magnitude, and the mode of construction observed in the building of the walls,† but also by the various Roman roads which branch off

* "Thus supplied by Mr. Ward; *Deo Herculi Sægontiacorum Titus Tammonius Sæniî Tammonii Vitalis filius ob honorem,*" &c.

Gough's Camden.

† "The first foundation of the *Wall*, which is to be discovered on the north and south-east sides of the city, appears to have been made with large flag-stones, from two to four feet in breadth, and four in length; and of unequal thickness, as sometimes, six, seven, eight, and nine inches:

off in different directions, and by numerous vestiges of Roman occupation that have been discovered here.

Q 3

Camden,

inches: their depth could not be ascertained, because they yet remain firmly fixed in the wall. Upon these stones was laid a stratum of rubble-stone, or large cragged flints, large pebbles, &c. filled up and held together with a strong cement. This was continued to the height of about two feet and a half; and then succeeded another layer of large flat stones, though not so big as the former; for the largest of these seldom exceeded three feet in length, and oftener were not so long: they ran in general from four to six inches in thickness, and seldom exceeded eighteen or twenty inches in breadth. This course or layer of flat stones runs round the whole city, and may easily be discovered in any part of the walls, its bottom being almost every where level with the ground. Upon this layer again was another stratum of rubble-stone, which, according to the measurement on the south side, was in height three feet: then succeeded another layer of small flat stones, made as near as possible to the shape of the Roman brick, but larger and thicker, so that the thickness of the stone interspersed with the cement, amounted to four inches. On this layer was laid another stratum of rubble-stones, composed of smaller flints, placed in more order than the former; this stratum was about two feet and a half in height: then followed a double row of flat stones, in shape and thickness exactly the same as those before described. On these again was laid another stratum of rubble-stone, of the finer sort, like the former, and exactly of the same height, viz. two feet and a half. On the top of this was a repetition of a double row of flat stones, something larger and thicker than the former; for these two rows, with the mortar, made the space of nine inches. The stratum of rubble which was again raised on these, was three feet high; and on the top succeeded by a double row of flat stones, still increasing in size, and then the rubble continues on the top, higher, or lower, as the walls have been more or less damaged; yet in many places, a succeeding layer of flat stones is to be seen, followed also by another stratum of rubble of still finer cast. One thing was observable, as well in the foundation as in the second row of large stones, described as above; these great stones were not continued regularly, but there appeared frequent breaks, filled up with smaller flat stones, set shelving one over the other; also in the second, in the third, fourth, and fifth stratum of rubble

Camden, on the authority of Nennius, and Gervasius Durobor-nensis, affirms, that the Usurper Constantine was invested with the purple in this city, in the year 407. The British King, Arthur, is also said to have been crowned here; but with manifest error,*

as

rubble (from the ground) great pains appeared to have been taken with the flints, to place them in exact order; so that for a considerable distance they are observed to form a kind of zig-zag, or herring-bone work, laid in rows, some one way, and some another. The wall at the south gate being measured, was found to be full twenty-four feet thick.

“The whole of this city was surrounded by a large *deep ditch*, great part of which is now filled up with the ruins of the wall, so as to form a bank, on which one may easily walk round about, having the wall itself on one side, and the ditch below on the other: but this was not its original state, for formerly the ditch came up close to the wall, and this bank was not then in being. Beyond the ditch again, is the external *vallum*, very perfect, and easily to be traced out round the whole city; its highest parts, even in the present state, are at least fifteen feet perpendicular from the bottom of the ditch. A straight line, drawn from the top of this bank to the wall on the north-east side, measured thirty-four yards, its full breadth. The two main *streets*, which led from gate to gate, are broader than any of the rest, and measured more than ten yards across. Near the middle of the city, within a spacious square, formed partly by the intersection of the two main streets, was discovered the foundation of a large structure, consisting of free-stone, three feet thick, which is reported to have been a Temple; because near it, and in the inside, were found the remains of a little elevated building, an altar, as it was thought, from the quantity of ashes, wood, and burnt coal, that lay round about: it was three feet in height, four in length, and three in breadth, and entirely built of Roman bricks, the dimensions of which were as follow: seventeen inches and a half long, twelve inches and a half broad, and nearly two in thickness.† Not far from the same place was also ploughed up a large column of free-stone, in diameter one foot eight inches; and a piece of wall of rubble-stone, strongly cemented. The city was supplied with water from a fine plentiful spring, which rises in a south-east direction, and running to the walls, discharges itself underneath into the ditch.” *Strutt's Chronicle*.

* See under Winchester, p. 22.

† Phil. Trans. Vol. XLV. fol. 603.

as in his time the former splendor of Silchester was only attested by its bare walls, and heaps of ruins; it having been destroyed by the fierce Ella, on his march to Bath, about the year 493. This warlike Saxon landed in Sussex with a new levy of his countrymen in 477; his first enterprise was against the British city of *Caer Andred*, afterwards called *Andredesceastre*, which, after a brave resistance, was taken, and levelled with the ground, by the triumphant conqueror; every inhabitant was at the same time massacred.* Marching forward, he besieged this city, which being unable to resist his prowess, exhibited similar scenes of massacre and fell desolation. The important battle of Bath terminated for awhile both his conquests and his cruelty, the Saxons being defeated with immense slaughter, by the gallant *Ambrosius*.

Whether the Romans found this city already so strongly fortified, that they judged it expedient to build their walls according to the original plan, cannot be told; but it is certain that in this instance they departed from the form generally observed in the construction of their stations; the walls making an irregular octagon; so irregular, indeed, that scarcely any two of the sides are of equal length. The inclosed area is nearly a mile and a half in circumference, and contains about one hundred acres, which have long been cultivated, and are divided into seven fields. The parochial Church, and Church-yard, are also within the walls, together with a farm-house, and its requisite offices. The ground slopes gently from the centre to the south, in which direction a small spring flows, that rises near the farm-house: other small springs also rise here, so that parts of the fosse which surrounds the walls are generally filled with water. On the south side, the walls are the most perfect, and in some places measure nearly twenty feet high; the general height is from fifteen to eighteen or twenty feet.

Q 4

The

* Chron. Sax. Hen. Hunt. &c. "Omnes ore gladii devorati sunt cum mulieribus et parvulis, ita quod nec unus solus evasit. Et quia tot ibi damna toleravere extranei, ita urbem destruxerunt; quæ nunquam postea reedificata est. Locus tantum quasi nobilissimæ urbis transeuntibus ostenditur desolatus." *Hen. Hunt. Hist. l. 11. Milner's Winchester, Vol. I. p. 64.*

The foundations of the streets may yet be traced running in various parallel lines across the area: the four principal streets communicate with the entrances, which were on the north, east, south, and west sides: besides these, there are now two other entrances, which have been formed as waggon or cart ways. An open space, near the centre of the area, is supposed to have been the site of the forum, from the foundations of a large building, and other remains, that were dug up here. On the south side are traces of a small postern, or sally-port, running beneath the wall, and called by the country people, *Onion's Hole*, from a fabled giant of that name, who is affirmed by tradition to have made this city his residence; and in correspondence with this idea, the coins that have been dug up here, are frequently called *Onion's pennies*: they were even thus denominated in the days of Camden, who also mentions various inscribed stones as having been found in this station; but again lost, or destroyed, through the ignorance of the peasantry. On one stone, which he mentions as still preserved in the gardens of Lord Burleigh, and which appears from Horsley to have been afterwards in the possession of Sir Robert Cotton, was this inscription:

MEMORIÆ
FL. VICTORI
NÆ. T. TAM:
VICTOR CONJUX
POSVIT.

Camden also mentions many coins of Constantine the Younger, as having been found here by himself, having on the reverse, a building with this inscription: *PROVIDENTIÆ CÆS.* Another inscribed stone, but imperfect, was discovered here in the year 1732; and referred by Mr. Ward to Julia Domma, wife of Severus, or Julia Mammea, the mother of Alexander, both of whom, he observes, have the same titles on coins and inscriptions as appeared on the stone.

In Gough's *Additions to Camden*, mention is made of a person named Stair, who formerly kept a public-house in the neighbouring village of Aldermaston, and had a "great collection of coins, both
brass

brass and silver, from Julius Cæsar to the latest Emperors, found hereabouts; and some gold and silver, British: two onyx seals; one with a cock picking out of a cornucopia; the other only ZACP. Of the Roman coins found here, one of the rarest is a gold Allectus; rev. Apollo, with a whip and globe; at his feet, two captives, ORIENS AVG. ML. and gold ones of Valentinian and Arcadius. One spot, called Silver-Hill, where are foundations of large buildings, has yielded a great quantity of silver coins. In or near the Temple (Forum) above mentioned, Stair told me, he found twelve or more pedestals, and fragments of stone statues, too imperfect to bring away: he shewed me the small alabaster head of a man, with curled hair, about three inches high, and said that many copper *penates* had been found: he had a sword with two serpents encircling the hilt, found within the walls."

Among the various relics of antiquity that have been more recently discovered, are some gold coins and rings, now in the possession of the farmer who rents the estate: one of the rings has a singular shaped key attached to it, but whether for use, or ornament, is doubtful. Roman bricks and pottery are frequently dug up; indeed, the whole area is strewed with fragments of this description; and in the farm-yard, and a ditch adjacent, are parts of a large column. Necklaces of blue beads, or links, saws, bells, swords, and masons' tools, have likewise been found here; and also a curious Roman eagle in steel, which was shown to the Society of Antiquaries by a former Bishop of Carlisle.*

About 150 yards from the north-east angle of the walls, is a Roman AMPHITHEATRE, the form of which is similar to that near Dorchester, with high and steep banks, now covered with a grove of trees, and two entrances. The elevation of the Amphitheatre consists of a mixture of clay and gravel, and the seats were ranged in five rows, one above the other; the slope between each measuring about six feet. The bank, or wall, is nearly twenty yards thick at the bottom, but decreases gradually towards the summit, where its thickness is about four yards. The area is com-
monly

* Gough's Camden, Vol. I.

monly covered with water: in one part, close on the south side, which credulity now represents as unfathomable, appears to have been the *cavea*,* or den, where the wild beasts were kept before they were let out into the *arena*.

“At about 300 yards from the walls is a bank and ditch, covering nearly two-thirds of the city: and about one mile and a half to the north-west, near a small village, called the *Soak*, are remains of a Camp; and half a mile from that village, a bank and ditch, of several miles extent, which may be part of a Roman road to *Spinæ*.”† The country round Silchester is extremely wild and romantic, presenting a continued succession of hill and dale.

The road which leads from the south entrance of this ancient city to the north gate of Winchester, appears, from Stukeley, to have been called *Longbank*, and *Grimsdyke*; and that which leads by Andover to Old Sarum, to have been named the *Port-way*. Another road which issues from this station, on the north, crosses MORTIMER HEATH, at right angles with the Bath road, and has several tumuli on each side. About 1200 acres of this Heath, or Common, were inclosed during the year 1803, and if the inclosures then made, have not obliterated them, here are traces of several entrenched *Camps*, the largest of which is on the east side of the road leading to Reading. This is evidently of considerable antiquity, as the side running north and south, and which is the most perfect, is now the boundary line between the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire: its form appears to have been square. In the centre of the area, is a small barrow; and on the opposite side of the road, at the distance of about 100 yards, are several others. This was probably the scene of one of the many battles fought between the West Saxons and the Danes in the course of a year.‡ This opinion may be corroborated by a circumstance that has hitherto, we believe, escaped the researches of antiquaries. At a short distance from the Camp are two small farms, (now united,) one of which is called *Alfred's Acres*; and the

* See Vol. IV. p. 343. Note.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. I.

‡ Life of the Great Alfred, in Vol. I. p. 140, et seq.

the other, *Dane's Acres*: near the same spot are also several little cottages, one of which is constructed in a very peculiar manner, and bears the name of *Dane's House*; the timbers, or ribs, that compose the sides, are of solid oak, rising from the ground, and meeting in the centre, and thus assuming the appearance of the keel of a ship reversed: each rib is about two feet wide, and one thick. The length of this cottage is about thirty feet; its width at bottom, fourteen.

About five or six years ago, a somewhat similar *Phenomenon* was observed on this Heath, to that noticed under the description of the Souter-fell, in Cumberland.* Two gentlemen, from the vicinity of Reading, riding across it, (we believe in regimentals,) observed, as they thought, some *Soldiers on horseback*, galloping along the brow of a low hill, rising from a valley, which was partly involved in a mist, or fog. Surprised at the appearance of cavalry in this secluded situation, they hastened to the spot; but the objects *vanished* as they approached, leaving them strongly impressed with the singularity of the adventure. The operation of the same physical principles that occasioned the appearances on the Souter-fell, it is probable, gave rise to the phenomenon here described.

STRATFIELD-SAY, a seat of George Pitt, Lord Rivers, was anciently the property of a family named Say, by whose heiress it was conveyed in marriage to Sir Nicholas Dabridgecourt, Knt. who was Sheriff of Hampshire in the thirteenth of Richard the Second. In this family it continued till the reign of Charles the First, when it was purchased by Sir William Pitt, Comptroller of the Household, who made it his residence; and dying in 1636, was buried in the Parish Church. The late Lord Rivers, who was fourth in descent from Sir William, was created a Peer, by his present Majesty, in May, 1776. The House stands in an extensive Park, but rather low; though the scenery is pleasing, from the quantity of wood, which combining with a small stream that flows through the grounds, forms some good views.

About three miles south-west from Stratfield-Say, is the VINE, formerly a celebrated seat of the Lords Sandys, but now of William Chute,

* See Vol. III. p. 58.

Chute, Esq. one of the representatives for this county. "The Vine, by Basingstoke," says Leland, "was also of the auncient landes of the Sannes; but it was given owt in marriage to one of the Brokasses, and so remained until the late Lord Sandes, afore he was made Baron, recoverid it into his possession; at which tyme ther was no very great or sumptuous manor-place, and was only containid within the mote; but he after so translatid and augmented yt, and beside buildid a fair base court, that at thys time it is one of the principale houses in goodly building of all Hamp-tonshire."

Dugdale observes, in his Baronetage, that though none of the Sandys' family arrived at the dignity of the Peerage till the time of Henry the Eighth, yet they had superior rank among the gentry of Hampshire long before. Sir John de Sandys, Knt. was Sheriff of the county in the sixth of Richard the Second; and again in the eighteenth; as was also Sir William Sandys, Knt. in the twelfth of Henry the Fourth, and first of Henry the Sixth. The advancement of the family to wealth and honors, was, however, principally owing to the eminent services of Sir William Sandys, who, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, with many others of the English nobility, assisted the Emperor Maximilian against the French; and subsequently fought against the insurgents, who had advanced from the west to Blackheath, in the twelfth of that reign. In the fourth of Henry the Eighth, he was sent, with other brave Englishmen, to assist Ferdinand of Arragon, against the French; and in the fourteenth of the same reign, having been previously made a Knight of the Garter, he was constituted treasurer of Calais: in the same year, in concert with Sir Richard Wingfield, he had the command of the rear of the Earl of Surrey's army. The following year he was created a Baron, by the title of Lord Sandys; and soon afterwards led the vanguard of the army, commanded by the Duke of Suffolk, into France. After exercising various other important offices, he died in 1542, being then Lord Chamberlain of the King's household. His grandson, William, sat as one of the Peers on the trial of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, in the fifteenth of Elizabeth; and again, on the trial of the Queen of

Scots, at Fotheringhay; but in the forty-third of the same reign, he was himself imprisoned, for his concern in the insurrection raised in London by the Earl of Essex. He was twice married; his second wife was Catherine, daughter of Edmund, second Lord Chandois, who is celebrated by the Poet Gascoigne for her beauty, in the song ‘*On the fair Bridges,*’ printed in Percy’s Ballads. Elizabeth, his daughter by this marriage, married Sir Edward Sandys, Knt. and their son, Henry, succeeded to this estate. This gentleman was a Colonel under Charles the First, in whose cause he was mortally wounded, in the battle at Bramden, near Alresford, in this county. William, his son and successor, was obliged to part with this estate, which, about the year 1654, became the property of Chaloner Chute, Esq. an eminent lawyer, who was twice a representative for Middlesex, and also Speaker in the Parliament of Richard Cromwell; but the troubles of the times overpowering his strength of mind, he became indisposed, and, after lingering some time, died in 1659: his second wife was Lady Dacre, who survived him, and, after considerable litigation with his son and grandson, respecting jointure, obtained an order for the sequestration of the Vine estate, and other lands; but this was not acted on to its full extent, and the decree was afterwards reversed by Parliament. John Chute, Esq. who succeeded to this estate in 1754, and became Sheriff of Hampshire in 1757, was the friend of Walpole and of Gray, and was famed for his acquaintance with the arts. He died in April, 1776, and was succeeded by Thomas Lobbe Chute, Esq. of Norfolk, who had long before assumed the name of his mother, a collateral branch of this family: William, his son, and successor, is the present owner of this estate.*

Camden mentions the *Vine* as having derived its name from the vines introduced into this country in the time of the Emperor Probus. The situation of this seat is low; the grounds are not extensive, but well wooded; and a small stream of water crosses the
lawn

* Additional particulars relating to the Sandys and Chute families, may be found in the Topographer, Vol. I. p. 51—61.

lawn that extends from the north front of the house. The mansion itself is a long range of brick building, with wings: many alterations have been made in it since the time of its erection, by the first Lord Sandys, and particularly by the Speaker Chute, under the superintendence of Webb and Inigo Jones. Further improvements were effected by the late John Chute, Esq. who fitted up the interior in a grand style, and erected a fine Grecian theatri-c stair-case, on a design of his own. He also began the small Chapel, or *Tomb-Room*, adjoining the ancient and curious *Chapel* in this mansion, which the first Lord Sandys repaired and embellished. On each side of this Chapel are stalls, or seats, curiously carved: the three windows at the east end, are glazed with fine painted glass, brought from Boulogne, together with most of the pavement, which consists of tiles of various sizes, each of them having a figure, motto, or device upon it. The three upper compartments of the windows contain subjects from the New Testament; the lower compartments have the figures of Francis the First, with his two wives, Claude and Margaret, and their tutelar Saints. In the *Tomb-Room* is an altar-tomb, erected to the memory of CHALONER CHUTE, Esq. who is represented in his robes as Speaker of the House of Commons by a recumbent figure, sculptured by Banks, from a painting by Vandyck, still preserved in this mansion; together with a painting by the same artist, of his second wife DOROTHY, Lady Dacre. Several curious marbles, brought from Italy by the late J. Chute, Esq. with Greek and Latin inscriptions, are preserved here.

The lower part of one of the wings is occupied as a Green-House, above which is a long *Gallery*, wainscotted with oak, and curiously carved with the arms, cyphers, and other devices, of most of the Nobility that composed the Court of Henry the Eighth in the time of Lord Sandys. Here are also a few full-length portraits: among them are HENRY THE EIGHTH; CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk; SIR FRANCIS BACON, Lord Verulam; the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM; and a three-quarter length of a Nun, of the ancient family of the *Cusfuds*.

At

At WEST, or MONK'S SHERBORNE, was a PRIORY of Benedictines, founded by Henry de Port, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the reign of Henry the First, and soon afterwards given to the Abbey of St. Vigor, at Cerasie, in Normandy. After the dissolution of the Alien Priors, it was granted, by Edward the Fourth, to the Hospital called Domus Dei, at Southampton, as an appurtenance to which it now belongs to Queen's College, Oxford.

MALSANGER, in the parish of Oakley, was the family seat and birth-place of WILLIAM WARHAM, Archbishop of Canterbury in the reigns of Henry the Seventh and Eighth. He received the early part of his education at Wyckham's College, Winchester, and afterwards removed to New College, Oxford; where his assiduous attention to study procured him various promotions. His abilities were not more eminent in a civil than ecclesiastical capacity; and Henry the Seventh, with whom he was a great favorite, intrusted him with several important offices; so that he was at once a Divine, a Lawyer, and a Statesman. He was successively Keeper of the Rolls, Ambassador to Philip, Duke of Burgundy, Keeper of the Broad Seal, Bishop of London, Chancellor of England, and Archbishop of Canterbury: the latter situation he held from the year 1504 till the time of his death, in August, 1532; but many of his privileges were usurped by Wolsey, who supplanted him at Court, and sought every occasion to mortify him. His portrait has been engraved by Virtue, from an original and very fine painting, by Holbein, which is yet preserved in the Gallery at Lambeth Palace.

BASINGSTOKE

Is a large ancient and populous town, situated in a pleasant and well-wooded part of the county, and commanding a considerable trade from its standing at the junction of five great roads. In the Domesday Book, it is mentioned by the appellation *Basingtoches*, and is recorded as having always been a Royal manor; as never having paid tax, nor ever been distributed into hides: it is also noticed in that Survey, as having a market worth thirty shillings.

On the establishment of the woollen manufacture, Basingstoke obtained an extensive share in that business, and has been particularly noticed for its druggets and shalloons; but the manufacture of these articles has long ceased. The malting business is, however, carried on to a considerable extent, and employs a great number of persons.

The *Church* is a spacious and handsome structure, said to have been built under the auspices of Bishop Fox; it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low square tower: the south side of the Church is of stone, but the north side is constructed with alternate squares of stone and flint. On the spandrils, and over the doorway leading into the chancel, on the north side, are several shields, of different sizes, inscribed with the initials I. H. S. and other letters, of which an engraving has been given in Gough's *Additions to the Britannia*. The advowson of this Church,* with that of Basing, was granted, by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, to the Priory of Selborne, and, with the other possessions of that foundation, was transferred, in the year 1459, to Magdalen College, Oxford, to which it yet belongs: the living is very valuable. Several of the Vicars have been eminent for their talents and learning. Among them, was *Sir George Wheeler*, the celebrated
Eastern

* The annual ceremony of perambulating the boundaries of Basingstoke Parish, commences and concludes with the singing of a psalm, at the great elm tree, before the Vicarage House. This custom, which has been long neglected in most other places, is probably a remnant of the ancient ceremony alluded to in the following extract from Crossman's *Introduction to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion*. "At the Reformation, when all processions were abolished, the perambulations of the circuits of parishes were thought necessary to be retained; and it was ordered that the minister and substantial men of the parish, should walk about the bounds thereof, and at certain convenient places, should give thanks to God in the beholding of his benefits, for the increase and abundance of his fruits upon the earth, with the saying of the 104th Psalm; at which time also the minister is to inculcate this and the like sentences: 'Cursed is he that translateth the bounds and doles of his neighbours;' or, as we now read it, 'Cursed is he that removeth his neighbour's land-mark.'"

Eastern traveller, who founded a Library in a part of the Church said to have been originally dedicated to St. Stephen; and *Thomas Warton*, B. D. some time Professor of Poetry in Oxford University, and father of the celebrated Dr. Joseph Warton, and of his brother, the Rev. Thomas Warton; both of whom were born in this town.

Henry the Third founded an *Hospital* at Basingstoke, for the maintenance of aged and impotent Priests, at the request, and on the estate of, Walter de Merton, who was Lord High Chancellor of England, and afterwards Bishop of Rochester: he was also the founder of Merton College, Oxford; for the reception of the incurable fellows or scholars belonging to which, this Hospital was eventually appropriated.* It stood on the north side of the river, a little below the town bridge; some remains may yet be traced. The government of Basingstoke is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, seven Aldermen, seven Capital Burgesses, and other officers. The *Town-Hall* is a large and new edifice. Several *Schools* have been instituted here for the education of youth; particularly a *Free-School* of some repute; and a Charity School, in which twelve boys are clothed, and maintained at the expense of the Skinner's Company, of London. According to the returns under the Population Act of 1801, the inhabitants of Basingstoke amounted to 2589; the number of houses to 512.

Basingstoke possesses a considerable trade in corn, the transit of which is greatly facilitated by a *Canal* that has been made from the river Wey, in Surrey, to this town, under the authority of an act obtained in the year 1778. The length of the canal to the river Wey, by which it communicates with the Thames, is thirty-seven miles and a quarter: the expense of cutting it amounted to about 100,000*l*. A large portion of this sum was expended in forming a tunnel, nearly three quarters of a mile in length, through Grewill Hill, near Odiham: the tunnel is arched, and lined with brick. Besides corn and flour, coals, timber, manure, and goods of almost every description, are conveyed to different parts of the

VOL. VI. APRIL 1805. R country

* Tanner's Notitia.

country by this channel: the first barge arrived at the wharf at Basingstoke in January, 1794. Among the numerous projected advantages that led to the formation of the canal, was the presumed cultivation of Bagshot, and other heaths within the line of its course. The dividends have as yet been small, but are annually increasing.

On an eminence, at the northern extremity of Basingstoke, are situated the remains of *Holy Ghost Chapel*, so called from its having been connected with a brotherhood, or guild of the Holy Ghost, instituted by Sir William Sandys, Knt. afterwards first Lord Sandys, and Fox, Bishop of Winchester, under a license from Henry the Eighth. This fraternity was dissolved in the first of Edward the Sixth, and its possessions vested in the Crown; but in the first of Philip and Mary, a brotherhood was again established here, and the former possessions re-granted for "the maintenance of a Priest for the celebration of divine service, and for the instruction of the young men and boys of the town of Basingstoke." About the commencement of the reign of James the First, the brotherhood became extinct; and during the confusions of the Civil Wars, the Chapel estate was seized by the Parliament, and the School shut up; but through the care of Bishop Morley, the estate was again restored, about the year 1670.

The site of this Chapel is traditionally said to have been occupied by a religious structure from the period of the Saxon times; and though the present building is generally ascribed to the above Sir William Sandys, the opinion of a celebrated draughtsman and antiquary,* seems to countenance the report of its having been erected much earlier. "The style of the architecture," he observes, "appears of the day of Edward the Fourth. The design, though small, is much enriched; and among the ornaments, are many of the Roman and Grecian turn, which shows that examples of this sort had been earlier introduced among us than is generally understood: however, it is not impossible, but that many of the carvings,

* Mr. Carter, in his Pursuits of Architectural Innovation; see Gent. Mag. Nov. 1802.

carvings, with some shields of arms, were added in the reign of Henry the Eighth, in consequence of repairs or alterations then taking place." Camden describes it as having been erected by Sir William Sandys, and particularly mentions the roof, as being excellently adorned from scripture history. The only parts now standing are the south and east walls, with an hexangular tower at the south-west angle, in which was formerly a stair-case. On the piers between the windows on the south side, are long narrow pedestals, with niches rising above them. The angles of the tower are similarly decorated: the walls are of brick, cased with free-stone. The effect arising from the elevated situation of these ruins is very beautiful. The building appears to have been first dilapidated in the Civil Wars, and has been almost entirely neglected ever since. The large regular apartment to the westward of the Chapel, is supposed, by Mr. Carter, to have been the body of an ancient Church, "to which the Chapel was attached, constituting the chancel or choir." Camden affirms, that Sir William Sandys was buried in this Chapel, but no traces of his tomb remains. In the adjoining burying-ground, which is here called the *Liten*, are several defaced inscriptions in memory of the *Cufauds*, a respectable family, who were allied to the Plantagenets, and had been settled at Cufaud, near the Vine, from the early Norman times.* Here also, are several inscriptions to the *Blundens*, of Basingstoke, none of whom are now remaining: one of these deserves preservation from the elegant Latin in which it is written.

H. S. E.

GUILIÉLMUS BLUNDEN, GEN.

Guilielmi Blunden de Basingstoke generosi filius unicus

Novi Collegii Oxon superioris ordinis Commensalis

Florentissimi istius Societatis grande Ornamentum,

Totius etiam Academiae Deliciae,

Honorabilis societatis Hospitii Graiensis studens,

R 2

Egregio

* The Cufaud estate was purchased by T. L. Chute, Esq. the late proprietor of the Vine, above thirty years ago.

Egregio asmodum Ingenio, Moribus, Prudentia;
 Et, quod raro alias repertum est, inter cæteras
 Animi dotes Modestia singulari,
 Erga Patrem pius, omnium amans, ab omnibus amatus:
 Sed vitam ejus diuturnam facere non poterant
 Quæ fecerunt desideratum,
 Ut qui occidit immaturam, Variolum spoliū,
 Et Triumphus Mortis nulli bono
 Nimium Dolendus.
 Obiit 10 Jan.—1706.
 Ætat. Suæ—25.

Among the eminent natives of Basingstoke, the first that occurs in order of time, is JOHN DE BASINGSTOKE, or *Basingstochius*, who became of great repute towards the middle of the thirteenth century; and, as was then customary, assumed his sirname from the place of his birth. He was highly eminent for virtue and learning; for having a strong and vigorous understanding, he so improved it by study, that, besides acquiring a “perfect knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, he became an eloquent orator, a complete mathematician, a subtle philosopher, and a sound divine.” He commenced his studies at the University of Oxford; but, for further improvement, went to Paris, where he resided some years, and afterwards travelled to Athens, “the seat of the Muses, and mother of all polite literature.” Here he greatly increased his knowledge, particularly of ancient Greek literature; and, on his return to England, he brought with him several curious Greek manuscripts, and introduced the use of the Greek (Arabic) numerals. He also translated a Greek Grammar into Latin, intitling it the ‘Donatus of the Greeks,’ in order to facilitate the study of the former language. He was highly esteemed for his learning; and was particularly favored by the celebrated Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, who preferred him to the arch-deaconry of Leicester. He died in the year 1252; the twenty-sixth of Henry the Third.*

RICHARD

* Biographia Britannica, Vol. I. p. 669, 670.

RICHARD WHITE, called also *Basingstochius*, a Romish exile, and Regius Professor at Douay in the time of James the First, was likewise a native of this town. He wrote a 'History of Britain,' with valuable notes, 'from the first planting of this nation to Brute, and so on to Constantius, and Cadwallader, in nine books:' this history was much commended by the learned Selden.

SIR JAMES LANCASTER, an eminent navigator in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and James the First, was born at Basingstoke, where also he was buried in the year 1617, having bequeathed several legacies to his native place. He was one of the earliest traders to the East Indies, and gave his own name to a sound in Baffin's Bay.

DR. JOSEPH WARTON, F. R. S. was born at Basingstoke, about the year 1722, and very early imbibed a distinguished fondness for letters, from the instructions and pursuits of his reverend father, who has been already mentioned as a Vicar of this parish. He then became a Student at Winchester College, and afterwards was elected Master; a situation that he continued to fill for a number of years, with great and deserved celebrity. His knowledge of classical literature was very extensive, and, combined with his benevolence, and amiable temper, procured him numerous friends among the most cultivated classes of society. His poetical talents were good, but were chiefly confined to the production of short pieces, of which, perhaps, his Ode to Fancy is the best, and has been most admired. His *Essay on the Writings and Genius of Pope* is an excellent work, and remarkable from the circumstance of the first volume having been printed nearly thirty years before the second and last was submitted to the public. In the year 1797, appeared his edition of the Works of Pope, in nine volumes, octavo, with notes critical and illustrative: this, though bearing evident marks of haste, is the best edition of that Poet that has yet been published. He died in March, 1800; deservedly regretted by a very large circle of acquaintance.

The Rev. THOMAS WARTON, B. D. the late Poet Laureat, was born here in the year 1728; and received the rudiments of instruction at the School, of which his father was then Master. At the age

of fifteen he was admitted a Commoner, and soon afterwards was elected a scholar at Trinity College, Oxford. His attachment to books, and the early maturity of his mental powers, were very unusual; and he was quickly distinguished as well by various poetical productions, as by his critical acumen, and knowledge of classical literature. His literary undertakings were many: his editions of Theocritus, and of the smaller poems of Milton, are highly curious and valuable. His most eminent production is the *History of English Poetry*, in three volumes, quarto; though not completed to the extent proposed, as a fourth volume was in the press at the time of his decease. He also published *Observations on the Fairie Queen of Spenser*, two volumes, 1762; and a *History of the Parish of Kiddingington*; the latter of which is regarded as one of the best specimens of a parochial history ever published. He died at Oxford, in May, 1790; having long previously been chosen a Fellow of Trinity College, and made Camden Professor of History in that University. His disposition was amiable, and his accomplishments great and varied. He was considered, observes his biographer,* and editor of his poetical works, "as one of the chief literary characters of his age; equal to the best scholars in the elegant parts of classical learning; superior to the generality in literature of the modern kind; a Poet of fine fancy, and masculine style; and a critic of deep information, sound judgment, and correct taste." -

At a short distance west from Basingstoke is an ancient *Encampment*, the proper name of which appears to be WINCLESBURY; though several other appellations have been given to it. The embankment is about 1100 yards in circumference, but no traces of a ditch are visible; it has two entrances, respectively west and east: its form is an irregular oval, approaching to an oblong square.

BASING, or OLD BASING, a small village, about two miles north-east from Basingstoke, is memorable for a bloody battle fought here between the Danes, and the Saxons commanded by
King

* Richard Mant, M. A. Fellow of Oriel College.

King Ethelred and his brother Alfred, in the year 871, in which the latter were defeated. It became still more famous, however, from the gallant stand made against the forces of the Parliament, in the reign of Charles the First, by John Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, a lineal descendant from Hugh de Port, who, at the period of the Domesday Survey, held fifty-five lordships in this county. Basing was the head of these extensive possessions, and appears to have been very early the site of a Castle, as mention of the 'land of the *Old Castle* of Basing,' occurs in a grant made by John de Port, to the neighbouring Priory at Monk's Sherborne, in the reign of Henry the Second.* William, his grandson, assumed the surname of St. John; and Robert, Lord St. John, in the forty-third of Henry the Third, obtained a 'license to fix a pole upon the bann of his moat at Basing, and also permission to continue it so fortified during the King's pleasure.† In the time of Richard the Second, Basing, with other estates of this family, was transferred, by marriage, to the *Poynings*; and again in the time of Henry the Sixth to the *Paulets*, by the marriage of Constance, heiress to the former, with Sir John Paulet, of Nunny Castle, in Somersetshire.

Sir William Paulet, Knt. third in descent from this couple, created Baron St. John, of Basing, by Henry the Eighth; and Earl of Wiltshire, and Marquis of Winchester, by Edward the Sixth; was a very polite nobleman, and greatly in favor at Court through most of the successive changes that occurred in the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth. He held the office of Treasurer nearly thirty years, sustaining himself by the courtly maxim of "being a willow, and not an oak." He rebuilt the Castle at Basing in a magnificent and even princely style, so much so indeed, that Camden, in allusion to the vast expense of living entailed on his family by its splendor, observes, that "it was so overpowered by its own weight, that his posterity have been forced to pull down a part of it." Here, in the year 1560, he entertained Queen Elizabeth,

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with

* Gentleman's Mag. Aug. 1787.

† Ibid.

with ‘all good chear,’ and so much to her satisfaction, that she playfully lamented his great age; “for, by my troth,” said the delighted Sovereign, “if my Lord Treasurer were but a young man, I could find in my heart to have him for a husband, before any man in England.”* This nobleman died in 1572, at the age of ninety-seven, having lived to see 113 of his own immediate descendants; he was buried in Basing Church.

William, his great grandson, and fourth Marquis of Winchester, had likewise, in the year 1601, the honor of having Queen Elizabeth for a guest, and that for a period of “thirteen dayes, to the *greate charge* of the sayde Lorde Marquesse.” During her residence here, the Duke of Biron, accompanied by about twenty of the French nobility, and a retinue of nearly 400 persons, were lodged at the Vine, the seat of Lord Sandys, which house had been purposely furnished with hangings and plate from the Tower, and Hampton Court, “and with sevenscore beds and furniture, which the willing and obedient people of the countrie of Southampton, upon two dayes warning, had brought in thither to lend the Queene.”† When Elizabeth departed from Basing, she affirmed, that “she had done that in Hampshire, that none of her ancestors ever did, neither that any Prince in Christendome could doe: that was, she had in her progresses in her subjects’ houses, entertained a Royal Ambassador, and had royally entertained him.”‡ This Marquis died in 1628, at Hawkwood, now Hackwood, the present seat of his descendants.

John, his son, the fifth Marquis of Winchester, was the brave nobleman who rendered his name immortal by his gallant defence of BASING HOUSE, in the cause of Charles the First, during a tedious siege and blockade, or rather a succession of them, which, with short intermissions, continued upwards of two years. The *Journal of the Siege* was printed in Oxford, in 1645, and is said, by Granger, to be one of the most eventful pieces of history during the Civil War. The investment commenced in August, 1643;

* See Queen Elizabeth’s Progresses, Vol. I. p. 56.

† Ibid. Vol. II. p. 5.

‡ Ibid. Vol. II.

1643; the first material assaults were made by Sir William Waller, who thrice within nine days attempted to take it by storm, but was repulsed, and obliged to retreat with great loss to Farnham.

This repulse was only the prelude to a more obstinate investment by the Parliamentary forces of Hampshire and Sussex, who were united under the command of Colonel Norton, of Southwick, in this county. The summons to surrender was contemned by the Marquis, who was heard to observe, that "if the King had no more ground in England than Basing House, he would maintain it to the uttermost." Occasional sallies were made by the besieged, and with much success; but provisions failing, the Marquis sent for succour to Oxford, where the King then held his councils. The difficulty of the enterprise, as all the country between Abingdon and Basing was in the possession of the Parliament, who had also strong garrisons at Abingdon and Reading, rendered his first solicitations ineffectual; yet, on his sending a last express, with a positive assurance that famine would compel him to surrender in ten days, it was determined to attempt his relief; and the brave Colonel Gage was, at his own request, intrusted with the execution of this dangerous service.

On the night of September the ninth, 1644, the Colonel left Oxford with a strong party of horse and foot, many of whom were volunteers; and being strengthened at Wallingford by an additional body of about 100 persons, marched with celerity to Aldermaston, where he arrived on Tuesday evening, and rested his troops from eight till eleven. Here they were discovered to be Royalists from the imprudence of the Commander of a troop of horse, who had been sent before to collect refreshments, and who, forgetting the orange tawny scarfs and ribbands by which they had disguised themselves, had betrayed their real colors by attacking, and making prisoners, of some of the Parliament's horse. On the next morning, between four and five, the Colonel had arrived within a mile of Basing, where he halted his men; and, on the almost immediate receipt of a letter from Sir William Ogle, Governor of Winchester, who had engaged to make a diversion in his favor, but now declined it from the extreme danger, held a council

of his officers, in which it was determined to attack the besiegers in an undivided body; though this was contrary to the original design. For this purpose the troops were arranged in battalions, and marched rapidly towards Basing House; but they had advanced only a short distance, when the Parliament musqueteers commenced a smart fire from the hedges; and beyond them, on a rising ground, five cornets of horse were seen, drawn up in good order, to receive the assault. The charge made by the Royalists was, however, so furious, that they immediately gave ground, and fled to a considerable and safe distance. The foot disputed the attack with greater spirit; but were at length obliged to retire, from hedge to hedge, and, after a hard contest of two hours, were also driven from their works on that side on which the attack commenced, and a complete passage was opened with the besieged.

The Colonel having saluted the Marquis, and supplied him with ammunition, immediately marched into Basingstoke, where the Parliament committees had previously sat, and where he found considerable quantities of provision, of which he sent as much to the garrison as he could obtain means of conveyance for, together with forty or fifty head of cattle, and 100 sheep. At night, the Colonel retired with all his force into Basing House, whence, on the ensuing morning, he again dispatched his horse and foot to Basingstoke, as well to procure them refreshments, as to continue to supply the garrison with necessaries. In the course of the day, he received intelligence that Colonel Norton was drawing his forces together, with intent to fall on his rear on his return to Oxford; and that the Parliament's troops from Abingdon, Newbury, and Reading, were also assembling, to dispute his passage over the river Kennet. On this he determined to commence his retreat the same night; but, to deceive the enemy, drew all his troops to the Basing House as before; and sent orders, which he knew must fall into their hands, for the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages to supply certain proportions of corn by the next day noon, on pain of having their houses destroyed by fire. The scheme succeeded; and about eleven he began his march, and crossed the Kennet, undiscovered, by a ford near Burghfield Bridge; the bridge itself

having been previously broken down. The ensuing morning, Friday, he forded the Thames near Pangbourn, and arriving at Wallingford in safety, quartered there for the night: the next day he returned to Oxford. His whole loss, in completing this gallant enterprise, was only eleven killed, and between forty and fifty wounded.

The blockade and siege of Basing House were immediately re-commenced: in about two months the garrison was again in distress for provision; and Colonel Gage, who had now received the order of knighthood, was a second time chosen to afford it relief, with a party of 1000 horse. Each trooper was to carry a bag of corn, or other provisions; and, on reaching Basing House, was to cast it down, and the retreat to be then commenced in the best order possible. This enterprise was also completely successful, though by a different means than had been conjectured; for the Parliament's troops had raised the siege the day before the Colonel's arrival, and retired into winter quarters.

The final investment of Basing House appears to have been undertaken by Cromwell, who took it by storm in October, 1645, and burnt it to the ground, in despite of the *Aidez Loyauté*, which the Marquis had written with a diamond in every window, and which has ever since been the motto of the family arms. The plunder obtained on this occasion, is said to have amounted to 200,000*l.* in cash, jewels, and rich furniture.* The number of soldiers slain before the walls, from the first commencement of the siege, is recorded to have been upwards of 2000.

It appears, from a survey made in the year 1798, that the area of the works, including the garden, and entrenchments, occupied about fourteen acres and a half. The form was extremely irregular; the ditches very deep, and the ramparts high and strong:
some

* There is a traditionary report, that the garrison was partly surprised, through some of the troops being engaged at cards when the assault commenced; and we have been informed, that the card-players of the neighbourhood have a common saying of, '*Clubs trumps, as when Basing House was taken.*'

some of the remains are yet very bold and striking. The citadel was circular, having an oblong square platform on the north, defended by a rampart and covered way. The north gateway is yet standing, together with parts of the outward wall, and is constructed with brick, jointed with great care and nicety. The site of the ruins is particularly commanding: the canal from Basingstoke has been cut through a part of the works; and the outward entrenchments have been rendered very obscure and imperfect, from some late improvements in the grounds. The medium depth of the fosse which surrounded the citadel, is about thirty-six feet perpendicular.

The brave Marquis, whose property was thus reduced to ruin in the cause of his Sovereign, lived till the Restoration, but received no recompense from an ungrateful court for his immense losses. During the latter part of his life, he resided at Englefield, in Berkshire, and was there buried in the parish Church: the epitaph on his monument was written by the poet Dryden, and is as follows:

He, who in impious times undaunted stood,
 And midst rebellion durst be just and good;
 Whose arms asserted, and whose sufferings more
 Confirm'd the cause for which he fought before;
 Rests here:—rewarded by an heav'nly Prince
 For what his earthly could not recompense.
 Pray, reader, that such times no more appear;
 Or if they happen, learn true honor here.
 Ark of this age's faith and loyalty,
 Which to preserve them, Heav'n confin'd in thee,
 Few subjects could a King like thine deserve;
 And fewer such a King so well could serve.
 Blest King, blest Subject, whose exalted state
 By sufferings rose, and gave the law to fate.
 Such souls are rare; but mighty patterns given
 To earth, and meant for ornaments to Heav'n.*

The

* The first wife of the Marquis was Jane, the very accomplished daughter of Thomas, Viscount Savage: she was the mother of Charles, first Duke of Bolton, but died in the delivery of her second child. An epitaph to her memory was written by Milton.

“ Summers

The Marquis, who died in 1674, was succeeded in his estates and titles by his eldest son, Charles, of whom Granger gives the following character. "This Nobleman, when he saw that other men of sense were at their wits' end, in the arbitrary and tyrannical reign of James, (the Second,) thought it prudent to assume the character of a madman, as the first Brutus did in the reign of Tarquin. He danced, hunted, or hawked, a good part of the day; went to bed before noon, and constantly sat at table all night. He went to dinner at six or seven in the evening, and his meal lasted till six or seven the next morning; during which time he eat, drank, smoked, talked, or listened to music. The company that dined with him, were at liberty to rise, and amuse themselves, or to take a nap, whenever they were so disposed; but the dishes and bottles were all the while standing upon the table. Such a man as this was thought a very unlikely person to concern himself with politics, or with religion. By this conduct, he was neither embroiled

* * * *

" Summers three times eight, save one,
She had told; alas! too soon,
After so short time of breath,
To house with darkness, and with death.

* * * *

" Once had the early matrons run
To greet her with a lovely son;
And now with second hope she goes,
And calls Lucina to her throes;
But whether by mischance, or blame,
Atropos for Lucina came;
And with remorseless cruelty,
Spoil'd at once both fruit and tree.
The hapless babe, before his birth,
Had burial, yet not laid in earth,
And the languish'd mother's womb
Was not long a living tomb.

* * * *

" Gentle lady, may thy grave
Peace and quiet ever have.

broiled in public affairs, nor gave the least umbrage to the court; but he exerted himself so much in the Revolution, that he was, for his eminent services, created Duke of Bolton: he afterwards raised a regiment of foot for the reduction of Ireland." He died at the age of sixty-nine, February the 27th, 1698. This Nobleman chiefly resided at Bolton Hall, in Yorkshire, an estate which he acquired by marriage with Mary, a natural daughter of Scrope, Earl of Sunderland; the Hall was built by himself. In his time also, *Hackwood*, now the principal seat of Lord Bolton, was first fitted up as a family residence.

Charles, son of the above, and second Duke of Bolton, assisted, like his father, in the great work of the Revolution; and was one of the Noblemen appointed at Exeter, in November, 1688, to manage the revenues of the Prince of Orange, as Sovereign of England. Besides receiving various honorable appointments in the intermediate years, he was constituted one of the Lords Justices of Ireland in 1697. In 1706, he was appointed a Commissioner to settle the terms of the Union between England and Scotland. In 1714, he was chosen a Knight of the Garter; and three years afterwards was declared Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He died in January, 1721-2, in his sixty-second year. By his first marriage with Frances, daughter of William Ramsden, Esq. of Byrom, in Yorkshire, he had two sons, Charles, and Harry, who were successively Dukes of Bolton.

Charles, the eldest, and third Duke, was installed a Knight of the Garter, in November, 1722; and, like his father, was appointed to several high offices in the state. This Nobleman was twice married: on the death of his first wife, from whom he had long been separated, he wedded the celebrated Lavinia Beswick, or Fenton, more known by the name of *Polly Peachem*, from her celebrity in the performance of that character in the *Beggar's Opera*. It is uncertain, observes a modern author,* "whether the opera itself, or *Polly Peachem*, had the greater share of popularity. Her lovers, of course, were very numerous; she decided in favor
of

* Lysons's *Environs of London*, Vol. III. p. 482.

of the Duke of Bolton, who, to the great loss of the public, took her from the stage, to which she never returned." She survived the Duke six years, and died Duchess Dowager of Bolton, in January, 1760.*

Harry, the fourth Duke, succeeded his brother in his honors and estates, in August, 1754, having previously represented the county of Southampton in five successive parliaments. He died in October, 1759, and, like his grandfather, left two sons, both of whom succeeded to the Dukedom. Charles, the fifth Duke, carried the Queen's crown, at the coronation of their present Majesties. He died, unmarried, in July, 1765, in his forty-seventh year. Henry, his brother, and last Duke of Bolton, died at the age of seventy-four, in the year 1794. The Basing and Hackwood estates became the property of the present Lord Bolton in right of his wife, the daughter of Charles, fifth Duke of Bolton, agreeably to the entail created by the latter.

Basing Church is a large, ancient, and curious structure, standing at a short distance from the site of Basing House, and consisting of three aisles, with a tower rising from the centre: in a niche, at the west end, is a figure of the Virgin Mary: the roof is supported by round arches, springing from massive columns. This edifice, as appears from a Latin inscription in the north aisle, was repaired in the year 1519, by Sir John Paulet, Knt. father of the first Marquis of Winchester, whose arms appear on various parts of the building. The above SIR JOHN PAULET, with his father, JOHN PAULET, Esq. and their respective wives, lie buried beneath two open-arched tombs, one on each side the chancel. Beneath the south aisle is the family vault of the Paulets, in which all the

six

* The rapid increase in the salaries of actors, can hardly be better illustrated, than by a reference to the wages of this Lady. When her performance of Polly Peachem had obtained the unqualified approbation of the town, the Manager, Rich, increased her salary from *fifteen* to *thirty shillings* per week, that he might secure her continuance at his theatre. We now read of a boy of thirteen, being secured in the receipt of 6000 guineas for performing fifty-one nights: what an astonishing difference!

six Dukes of Bolton, with many of their noble relations, are deposited. Various banners, with impalements of the arms of the different families allied to the Paulets, remain hanging in the aisle, with fragments of others that are nearly destroyed. A mural monument has also been erected in this Church, to the memory of FRANCIS RUSSEL, Esq. a native of Basingstoke, and Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, who assisted Mr. Nichols in his History of Leicestershire: he died at the age of fifty-five, in September, 1795.

About two miles south-west from Old Basing, is HACKWOOD PARK, the seat and property of Thomas Orde Poulett, Baron Bolton, in right of his lady, as before observed. The Park is very extensive: the surface is boldly irregular, and partakes of the beautiful character of the neighbouring chalk downs. The scenery is picturesque; and the views are diversified by large groves of fine oak, ash, and beech trees, interspersed with thorns of extraordinary size and luxuriance. The soil is peculiarly congenial to the beech trees, which rise to an immense height, with boles of uncommon girth, and large and spreading branches: these trees, covering large tracts, both in the park, and on a contiguous farm, assume, when seen at a distance, the appearance of an extensive forest.

The House is situated towards the western boundary of the park, and encompassed by about 100 acres of pleasure grounds, disposed into lawn, terrace, shrubbery, and a noble wood, bearing the name of Spring Wood, in which are many of the finest trees of the whole demesne. Over these the mantling ivy has been suffered to grow; and, by its rising to the highest branches, and thence hanging in rich and loose chains of thick foliage, it produces a very singular effect of beauty; and even in winter, it greatly tends to enliven and animate the gloom of the season. Various alterations, on a liberal and extended scale, have been made in the pleasure grounds, by Lord Bolton, particularly on the south, which had been originally arranged in the old style, by terraces, flights of steps, with pedestals and statues, leading to a great reservoir of water, and terminated by angular ramparts, bastions, &c. the views from the house were also intercepted by high yew-tree hedges, skirting

skirting long and formal avenues. By the late improvements, Nature has regained her rights; the avenues have been broken into walks and glades, and several distant views admitted. At the southern extremity of the reservoir, upon a very elevated pedestal, still stands an equestrian statue of George the First, but intended to be removed to a spot opposite the centre of the north front: this statue was a gift of the King to the Duke of Bolton, who had been honored with his Majesty's notice and correspondence before he succeeded to the Crown.

In the wood near the house are two ornamental buildings, used in the summer for purposes of recreation. One of these is in a part, called, and formerly used as, a menagerie for aquatic birds; and there is still within its circuit a considerable sheet of fine water. This building has a very handsome front of the Doric order, with an open colonnade in the centre, and a small, neat apartment, on each side; the whole assuming the appearance of a vestibule. The other building is situated in a part called the French Garden; and the grounds immediately surrounding it, were, indeed, formerly twisted into shapes, which fully entitled it to that appellation. It consists of four equal fronts, with a central dome, having somewhat of the heavy character that marked the general style of its architect, Sir John Vanbrugh. The apartment within is spacious, and is handsomely stuccoed, and paved with marble. This is said to have been used as a music room, during the time of the third Duke, and was then devoted to the vocal exercise of the celebrated Polly Peachem. The wild umbrageous vistas opening from three of the fronts, and decorated with flowering shrubs, and double blossoming fruit trees, are striking and beautiful.

The lower parts of the wood are in a state of wild and luxuriant nature, with coppice plants and shrubs, sheltered beneath great and lofty timber trees. In the midst of this wilderness, is a space containing above four acres, assuming the form of a vast ancient theatre, the boundary of which is composed of elms closely planted, and rather inclining inward, so as to project their lofty heads, and extended branches, over the sides and ends of the area: the stage is a flat lawn, at the lower end, from which seats of turf gra-

dually rise in sweeping divisions, leaving one grand broad passage in the middle, from the bottom to the top, which terminates in a large circular recess, having in the midst the ruins of a circular Grecian temple, which, from the remains, appears to have been constructed with great elegance. The most striking view of this theatre is obtained from the entry through the thicket at the bottom of the stage.

The whole of these pleasure-grounds, with the adjoining parts of the park, are thought to have formerly composed one large wood; and it appears to have been connected with Basing House and Castle, by long avenues of chesnuts, some of which still exist; and long stems, of considerable height, have grown up from the undecayed parts of others. It was then appropriated to the favorite diversion of hawking; and the name which it seems originally to have borne, was *Hawking Wood*; though now, by a corrupt abbreviation, rendered Hackwood. The Park is animated by between 500 and 600 head of deer: the only part, indeed, in which it seems deficient, is in the want of a continued expanse of water, though several reservoirs, and small sheets, exist in different parts. Even this, however, is intended to be remedied, by the introduction of a stream from some very abundant springs, which rise about half a mile distant on the north, and form the chief sources of the river Loddon.

The Mansion was originally a Lodge, built in Queen Elizabeth's time, and used as a place of meeting for the company assembled for the purpose of hawking, and as a Banqueting Room after the sport was over: the Lodge now forms the central part of the building. After the demolition of the principal seat at Old Basing, some habitable substitute seems to have been formed out of the ruins of the lower house; and here John, Marquis of Winchester, and his son, afterwards first Duke of Bolton, occasionally resided. Hackwood appears to have been completed about the year 1688, as the great exterior pipes from the roof, the cisterns, checks and backs of grates, &c. bear that date. The general form of the house, as then altered, was a large central building, connected with two considerable wings by open corridors. Various alterations have since

since been made; and in the time of the last Charles, Duke of Bolton, the great Hall, which, in its original state, was open from the ground-floor to the roof, had a new floor introduced at the height of twenty feet: the space below it was, at the same period, adapted to the reception of some very fine old wainscot, that was brought from Abbotstone,* near Alresford, and had been enriched by a great deal of most excellent carving by Gibbons. Various other improvements were also then made; the corridors were closed in; and some good offices were erected, together with the stables, and a spacious riding-house. Notwithstanding these alterations, the mansion was found in many respects inconvenient, when it came into the possession of Lord Bolton, who has, in consequence, commenced the execution of a plan for essentially improving the accommodations; and which, among other objects, embraces the erection of a new front on the north, about twenty-four feet from the present, and to be connected with the old wings by a sweep of more grace and utility. By this means, an excellent entrance Hall will be formed, forty feet, by twenty-four; several of the old apartments will be enlarged, and various new ones added, so as to render the whole a handsome and complete family residence. Among the numerous portraits in this mansion are these: a Head of the first MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER, on panel, in the style of Holbein.

A full-length of the MARCHIONESS OF WINCHESTER, second wife to John, the fifth Marquis. This lady was distinguished for courage and prudence, like the celebrated Blanche, Lady Arundel. She valiantly aided in the defence of Basing Castle; and also wrote a journal of the proceedings relating to the siege: the Castle was taken during her absence.

A full-length of JOHN PAULET, fifth Marquis of Winchester. A small oval portrait has been engraved of this Nobleman, by Hollar, who also engraved a small view of Basing House, which is

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extremely

* Abbotstone was a vast pile of building, that had been inhabited by the first Duke of Bolton: it was pulled down by the above Charles, the fifth Duke.

extremely rare. Mr. Gilpin states, that Hollar made his escape from Basing when it was taken by Cromwell.

Full-length portraits of KING WILLIAM in his robes of state; and of GEORGE THE FIRST. These pictures were given by the respective Monarchs to the first Duke of Bolton.

A three-quarter portrait of the third DUKE OF BOLTON, who married Miss Fenton.

About one mile north-west from Odiham, at North Warnborough, are the remains of ODIHAM CASTLE, the origin of which is anterior to the reign of King John, when it belonged to the See of Winchester, and became celebrated for its resistance against the army of Lewis, the Dauphin of France. Though only garrisoned by three officers and ten private soldiers, it sustained a siege of fifteen days, and was then only surrendered by its brave defenders, on condition of retaining their freedom, their horses, and their arms.* In the twenty-seventh of Edward the First, anno 1299, it was granted, together with the Town, Park, and Hundred of Odiham, to Queen Margaret, as part of her dower; but becoming again vested in the Crown, was afterwards several times re-granted to different persons; and at length finally bestowed, in the fifteenth of James the First, on Edward Lord Zouche, and his heirs for ever, together with the "Hundred, Lordship, and Manor of Odyham," and all their appurtenances. The extensive property of Lord Zouche in this neighbourhood, was purchased, about sixty years ago, out of the Court of Chancery, into which it had been thrown on the demise of the last representative of the Zouche family, by the late Sir Paulet St. John, grandfather to Sir H. P. St. John Mildmay, the present owner.

The original extent and form of the Castle cannot now be ascertained; the fragments that remain, are those of the Keep, which was an octagonal building: some of the ditches may yet be traced. Here David Bruce, King of Scotland, who was made prisoner at the battle of Neville's Cross, near Durham,† was confined for eleven years; and only obtained his release, by paying 100,000 marks, and giving hostages for his future conduct.

ODIHAM

* Matthew Paris.

† See Vol. I. p. 228; and Vol. V. p. 198.

ODIHAM

Is a small corporate and market-town, and was formerly a free borough, belonging to the Bishops of Winchester. The parish is very extensive, and includes some of the best arable land in this quarter of the county. In one part of it hops are cultivated with great success: the lands have been inclosed under an act passed in the year 1791. The number of houses in Odiham, was returned under the late act, at 186; that of inhabitants, at 1058. At the courts-leet, which are held here, the Constables, and other officers, are chosen for many of the adjoining villages. At Odiham was formerly a Royal Palace, and park: the only part that remains has been converted into the residence of a farmer, and still retains the name of *Palace*, or *Place Gate*. The Church is a large ancient structure, built with brick; and near it is an old Alms-house. A little west of the Church is an immense chalk pit.

Odiham was the birth-place of the celebrated grammarian WILLIAM LILLY, who was born about the year 1466. He became a student at Magdalen College, Oxford, which he quitted when he had attained the degree of B. A. and went to Jerusalem; and, on his return, studied the Greek language at the Isle of Rhodes. He afterwards travelled to Rome, to perfect himself in the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages, under the learned men, Sulpitius, and Pomponius Sabinus. In 1509, he returned to England; and having fixed on the Metropolis as his place of residence, taught grammar, poetry, and rhetoric, with so much success, that in 1510, he was appointed first master of St. Paul's School, by its founder, Dean Colet: in this situation he became the instructor of several of the greatest men that this country has produced. He was intimate with the most erudite men of his time; and obtained the particular eulogiums of Erasmus, for his skill in languages, and grammatical science. He died of the plague in the year 1522. He published several valuable works in the Latin tongue; but his *Latin Grammar* was the most successful, and has descended even to our own times.

Between one and two miles south-east from Odiham is DOGMERSFIELD PARK, the seat and property of Sir Henry Paulet St. John Mildmay, Bart. Member of Parliament for Winchester. This gentleman is paternally descended from the Ports, Lords of Basing, and maternally from William de St. John, a Norman Chieftain, who accompanied the Conqueror to England, and whose name occurs in the roll of Battle Abbey. John, his second son, who, on the death of his brother, inherited his father's lands, was one of the twelve Knights that accompanied Robert Fitz-Hamon, in his expedition against the Welsh, and was rewarded for his services with the Castle of Falmont, or Faumont, in Glamorganshire. His grand-daughter, Mabil, married Adam de Port, Lord of Basing; and their son, William, assumed the name of St. John, writing himself *Willielmus de Sancto Johanne Filius & Hæres Adæ de Port*. Oliver St. John, fifteenth in descent from this William, on his decease, left an only daughter, named Frances, married to her first cousin, Ellis Mewe, Esq. who assumed the name of St. John, in consequence of succeeding to that part of the family possessions that were situated at Farley St. John, in Hampshire. On the death of Frances, he married secondly, Martha, daughter of John Goodyer, in whose right he became possessed of the estate and residence at Dogmersfield. His great grand-son, married to Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Carew Mildmay, of Shawford House, in this county, is the present owner: he assumed the name of Mildmay in 1790, on succeeding to the estates of the late Carew Henry Mildmay, Esq. of Haslegrove, in Somersetshire.

The mansion at Dogmersfield is a very extensive building, standing on an eminence, in a Park containing about 700 acres, and, independent of the home prospects, commanding on the south and east, some distant views of the open country. It has two fronts, and contains several spacious and elegant apartments, decorated with some good paintings of the Italian, Venetian, and Flemish schools. In the Library is a very valuable collection of books, amounting to upwards of 5000 volumes, among which are a choice selection of Topographical works. From the pictures, the following may be selected as the most eminent.

Twelve

Twelve Views of Venice, and its Neighbourhood; Cammaletti.
 Rembrandt's Mistress, and an Old Man's Head; Rembrandt.
 Landscape, small, yet highly finished; Claude Lorraine.
 Bacchanalians; Titian.

Cattle and Figures; Cuyp.

Light Landscape and Figures; Bergham.

Landscape and Figures; Both.

Bacchanalians; N. Poussin.

Belshazzar's Feast; Old Franks.

Landscape and Figures; A. Van de Velde.

Sea Piece with Figures; W. Van de Velde.

JAMES THE FIRST, full length; Rubens.

PRINCE RUPERT; Sir Peter Lely.

VILLIERS, Duke of Buckingham; C. Jansen.

D. TENIERS, and Tenier's Wife and Child; Teniers.

LADY MILDMAY and Child, and Mr. P. MILDMAY; Hopner;
 exhibited 1803.

Head of RUBENS; a copy by Van Dyck.

ERASMUS; Holbein.

Landscape and Figures; Pynaker.

Inside of a Church; P. Neefs.

Two Views on the Thames; Scott.

The Park includes a great diversity of ground, and is very beautifully wooded, the present possessor having embellished it with several plantations, in addition to its woods of ancient growth. The Shrubbery and Pleasure Grounds were laid out by Ennes. Near the house is a lake of about forty-four acres. Immediately adjoining the Park, lies an extensive Common, covered with oak trees and hollies, and in many parts bearing a striking resemblance to the New Forest. In the new plantations, made by Sir H. Mildmay, very considerable attention has been given to the cultivation of ash timber, and with so much success, that the rapid growth of it in some places is scarcely credible.* The ash plants, when put

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into

* In one of the plantations, a spot of ground, about an acre in extent, the soil consisting of a moist loamy sand, was planted, six years ago,

into the ground, are of three years growth from the seed: the land, so planted, is then allotted in proportions of about half an acre, to different poor families in the neighbourhood, who are suffered for three years to cultivate potatoes among them at certain distances; at the expiration of which time, the ash plants are generally risen to the height of six or nine feet. A certain number of the most promising are then left for timber, and the remainder cut down for stools, which, from the contiguity of the hop plantations, become extremely profitable.

The Archbishops of Canterbury had a *Palace* at Dogmersfield as early as the twelfth century; and here Jocelyn Fitz-Jocelyn, who was translated from the See of Bath and Wells in 1190, died in the following year: some extensive foundations, supposed to belong to this building, were lately discovered at no great distance from the present mansion.

In the parish of HARTLEY WINTNEY, was a Cistercian* NUNNERY, reputed to have been founded in the time of the Conqueror. It contained a Prioress, and seventeen Nuns, about the period of the Dissolution, in the time of Henry the Eighth, when its possessions were valued, according to Dugdale, at 43l. 3s. 0d. per annum; but according to Speed, at 59l. 1s. 0d.

BRAMSHILL, the principal mansion in the parish of Eversley, is situated on a bold eminence, in a spacious Park, and forms one of the most commanding features of this county. It was the residence of the last Lord Zouche, and is reported to have been built by him as a palace for Prince Henry, son of James the First; but whether from the untimely death of that Prince, or some other cause, it was never completed to the extent proposed. The centre part only was finished: had the whole been executed according to the original design, it would have been one of the most splendid
and

ago, with ash, &c. taken from a nursery; and about two feet high. Many of them are now from eighteen to twenty feet high; and one of the most flourishing already measures twelve inches in circumference at the base.

* Tanner. Dugdale calls it a Benedictine Nunnery.

and striking edifices in the kingdom: the present proprietor and inhabitant, is the Rev. Sir Richard Cope, B. D.

ELVETHAM, about one mile to the south of the well-known inn at *Hartford Bridge*, was formerly a place of considerable extent and magnificence, and celebrated from a splendid entertainment given here by the Earl of Hertford to Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1591. The entertainments were continued through the space of four days; and, in addition to the delights of the table, consisted of a splendid display of pageantry, intermixed with discharges of artillery and fire-works, and enlivened by music, dancing, and singing; with occasional orations spoken by the characters in the pageants. The fulsome adulation paid to the doting Queen, may be exemplified by one of the ditties sung on this occasion, by the sea nymphs, and which may be regarded as a fair specimen of the poetry of that age.

THE SEA NYMPHES DITTIE.

How haps that now, when prime is don,
 Another spring-time is begun?—
 Our hemisphere is overrunne
 With beauty of a second Sunne!

Eccho. A second Sunne.

What second Sunne hath raies so bright,
 To cause this unacquainted light?—
 'Tis fair ELIZA's matchlesse grace,
 Who with her beames doth blesse the place.

Eccho. Doth blesse the place.

The beauty and virtues of the maiden Sovereign, were the grand themes that larded the daily festivities; and, on the departure of the Queen, the sum of her perfections were thus emblazoned in a two-part song:

O come againe, fair Nature's treasure!
 Whose lookes yeeld joyes exceeding measure.

O come againe, Heav'n's chiefe delight!
 Thine absence makes eternall night.

O come

O come againe, World's star-bright eye!
Whose presence doth adorne the sky.

O come againe, sweet Beauties Sunne!
When thou are gone, our joyes are done.

The Queen was so highly satisfied with her entertainment, that she promised the Earl her especial favor; and, indeed, every thing that pomp could devise, and money procure, had been obtained to gratify her. Various buildings, for the accommodation of her retinue, had been raised in the Park, as well as artificial mounts for the better display of the "sports and pastimes." Nymphs and tritons, sylvan gods and goddesses, Neptune and Oceanus, the Hours and the Graces, were alike employed to thread the mazes of the dance, and strew the way of the virgin Queen with flowers.*

William, Marquis and Earl of Hertford, grand-son of the Nobleman who thus entertained Elizabeth, sold Elvetham to Robert Reynolds, Esq. whose daughter and heiress, Priscilla, married Reynolds Calthorpe, Esq. from whom the present owner, Henry Gough Calthorpe, Baron Calthorpe, is maternally descended. The Mansion, which had been considerably reduced by the late Sir Henry Gough, and greatly dilapidated from neglect, has been lately repaired, and rendered an eligible residence: it is now inhabited by Lieut. Gen. Gwynne. The Park and grounds, which include an area of about two miles in circumference, were much improved by Mr. Emes, the landscape gardener, who had a lease of this estate for twenty-one years: several of his alterations have been since obliterated.

EWSHOT, in the parish of Crundel, is the seat of Henry Maxwell, Esq. but was formerly the principal residence of the *Giffords*, one of the most ancient and eminent families in Hampshire, some
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* A particular description of these festivities was printed in the same year they took place, under the title of "THE HONORABLE ENTERTAINMENT, given to the QUEEN'S MAJESTIE, in Progress, at ELVETHAM, in HAMPSHIRE, by the Right Honorable the EARLE OF HERTFORD." This has been re-printed by Nichols in his *Queen Elizabeth's Progresses*.

of whom were Sheriffs of the county in different reigns, from that of Henry the Sixth, to that of Elizabeth. It was afterwards a seat of the *Bathursts*, who possessed it for several generations. The Mansion is spacious, and the grounds diversified and beautiful: they were laid out by the celebrated Brown. The country in the vicinity is finely varied, and well-wooded.

ALTON

Is a respectable market-town, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Wey. Here Sir William Waller, in December, 1643, obtained some advantage over the forces of Lord Hopton, who had taken post in the town: the regiment commanded by Colonel Bowles retreated to the Church; but not having time to barricade the doors, threw down their arms, and surrendered; but the Colonel himself refusing quarter, was slain on the spot. The *Church* is a small, but neat building. The number of houses, as ascertained in 1801, was 388; that of inhabitants, 2026: some of the latter derive employment from the manufacture of corded stuffs, serges, &c. In this vicinity are several excellent hop plantations.

Alton has given birth to WILLIAM DE ALTON, a Dominican Friar, who lived in the time of Edward the Second, and wrote on the Universality of the Pollution of Mankind by Original Sin; to John Pitts, the famous Biographer; and to the late celebrated Botanist, William Curtis.

JOHN PITTS was born in the year 1560, and received his education at Wyckham's College, Winchester. Having embraced the Catholic religion, he afterwards left England as an exile, and went to Douay: he then taught rhetoric, and the Greek language at Rheims, and was made Canon of Verdun by the Cardinal de Lorraine: he died in the year 1616. He was author of the work, *De Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus*, printed in 1619, and containing an account of the most famous writers of this Island from the year of the world 2879, to A. D. 1612.

WILLIAM CURTIS, the Botanist, was the son of a respectable quaker and apothecary, who instructed him in his own profession,

and also in the elements of botany, by the assistance of the writings of Gerard, and Parkinson. In his twentieth year, he left his native place for the Metropolis, where one of his first pursuits, independent of medicine, was the study of medals; but the great expense of forming a collection, occasioned him to return with more ardor to natural history, and he very quickly distinguished himself in the science of entomology. This study induced him, by a natural transition, to a more attentive investigation of the plants from which insects derive their support, and, like the immortal Linnæus, he obtained an intimate knowledge of their characters and habits; though his progress was impeded by the pressure of various difficulties. As his acquaintance with botanical science increased, his original profession became irksome, and he at length quitted it altogether, though not till after he had commenced his great work, the *Flora Londinensis*. He then formed a botanical garden near the Magdalen Hospital, that he might the more readily trace the progress of vegetation, and minutely investigate its varied products, as well as to enable him to impress his lessons more forcibly on the minds of his pupils. The great expenses which attended the publishing of the *Flora Londinensis*, led him to project the *Botanical Magazine*, which, though less scientific than the former, became more profitable, and enabled him both to surmount pecuniary difficulties, and to form a more extensive establishment at Brompton. Here, as before, his plants were systematically arranged; and his gardens were opened for the advantage of the scientific, at a small annual subscription. He died in July, 1799, aged about fifty-three years; having for upwards of a twelvemonth previously complained of a great difficulty in breathing, and other internal pains, which gradually exhausted the powers of life.*

Between three and four miles south-west from Basingstoke, is the Manor and Park of KEMPSHOT, the ancient seat of the Pink family, of whom ROBERT PINK, who attained celebrity for his acquaintance with philosophy and divinity, was born here in the reign

* This biographical sketch is condensed from a more extended memoir in the Gentleman's Magazine for July, 1799.

reign of Queen Elizabeth. He afterwards became Warden of New College, Oxford, of which he had been admitted perpetual Fellow in 1596; and on his death, in 1647, was buried there in the outer Chapel. The last of his family sold Kempshot about forty years ago, and it has since passed through various hands to J. C. Cooke, Esq. the House is a large and handsome brick building.

POPHAM was the ancient seat of, and gave name to, the family of Popham, who afterwards extended themselves into Somersetshire and Wiltshire, and some of whom were Sheriffs of this county in the reigns of Edward the Third, Richard the Second, and Henry the Sixth: the principal branch of this family became extinct in the time of the latter.

STRATTON PARK, an estate formerly belonging to the Dukes of Bedford, was a favorite hunting residence of the late lamented Marquis of Tavistock, who is said to have had a large part of the ancient mansion here pulled down, lest his successors should prefer it to Woburn. It now belongs to Sir Francis Baring, Bart. who is making considerable improvements in the house and grounds.

GRANGE PARK, near Northington, was the seat of the *Henleys* for nearly a century and a half, and till their extinction on the death of the late Earl of Northington; after which, the estate was sold by his sisters and co-heiresses, to Henry Drummond, Esq. a celebrated Banker. The House was built by Sir Robert Henley, Master of the King's Bench Office, from the designs of Inigo Jones; and Horace Walpole pronounces it one of his best works. Its situation is low: the grounds are varied and beautiful. The Henleys had great interest in this county: Anthony Henley, who married a daughter of James, second Earl Berkeley, was a wit of considerable fashionable celebrity: Robert, his brother, who succeeded him, was bred to the bar, and appointed Lord Keeper in 1757: in 1760, he was created a Peer by the title of Baron Grange; and four years afterwards, he was made Earl of Northington. Robert, his son, the second and last Earl, died unmarried, in 1786.

ALRESFORD,

OR NEW ALRESFORD, as it is sometimes called, to distinguish it from a village of the same name, a short distance to the north,

was given, by King Kenewalch, to the Church at Winchester: it appears to have been a market and borough-town from time immemorial; and is recorded to have once returned a single representative to Parliament. Bishop Lucy, about the year 1220, re-established the market, which had decayed. On May-day, 1690, most of the town was destroyed by fire, which broke out in several parts at once. In 1710, it was again burnt down; and has since been a third time destroyed in a similar way. The houses, as returned under the late act, amounted to 196; the number of inhabitants to 1132: the market is principally held for the sale of corn and sheep. The management of the police is vested in a Bailiff, and eight Burgesses.

Alresford Pond, to the south-west of the town, is a noble piece of water, covering about 200 acres, and forming a head to the Itchin river. This source of supply owes its origin to Bishop de Lucy, who completed it under a charter from King John, and, by means of locks and aqueducts, rendered the river navigable from Alresford to Winchester, and thence to Southampton Water. The head of the pond is formed by an immense mole or causeway, nearly 500 yards in length, and formerly serving as part of the main road to London, but disused since the year 1753, when the new road was made through Bishop's Sutton. In recompense for this vast and expensive work, De Lucy obtained for himself, and his successors, the entire Royalty of the river from this reservoir to the Sea, besides other privileges. Several boats are kept on this lake by the proprietors of the neighbouring estates; and the breed of swans, and other water fowl, being encouraged on it, its surface frequently assumes a very cheerful and animated appearance. At OLD ALRESFORD the late Lord Rodney built a handsome mansion, which now belongs to his son Colonel Rodney.

TICHBORNE, about three miles south from Alresford, is the property and seat of Sir Henry Tichborne,* Bart. a descendant from one of the oldest families in the kingdom, and which was
seated

* This name is contracted from *De Itchin-Bourne*, alluding to the situation of the manor on the chief spring of the Itchin River.

seated here previous to the Conquest. Sir Roger de Ticheburne, who possessed this Lordship in the reign of Henry the Second, was a bold and daring knight, and several of his descendants have been eminent for similar qualities. Sir Benjamin Tichborne, who lived in the reigns of Elizabeth and James the First, has been already noticed for his spirited conduct in proclaiming the latter, King of England.* Richard, his eldest son, and successor, was sent by Charles the First, on an embassy to the Queen of Bohemia. On his death, Henry, his youngest and only surviving son, succeeded to the estates and title; but was sufficiently unfortunate to be implicated in the sham plot of the infamous Titus Oates, and was committed to the Tower, where he continued a prisoner for some years. In 1685, about a year after, he obtained his enlargement; and was made Lieutenant of the Ordnance. Since this period, the family have not been employed in state affairs, on account of their adherence to the Catholic Religion.† The ancient family mansion, called TICHBORNE HOUSE, has been just pulled down; it was a very venerable building, and of great age: the new house is a handsome edifice.

At the village of COLMERE, was born, in the year 1602, JOHN GRAVES, the renowned Astronomical and Mathematical Professor. His father was Rector of the parish; and had four sons, all of whom became eminent from their talents and learning.‡ John, the eldest, the subject of the present sketch, was equally, with his brethren, indebted to his reverend parent for the early instructions by which he acquired a taste for knowledge, both scientific and classical. At the age of fifteen, he was entered of Baliol College,

* See under Winchester, p. 45.

† The present Sir Henry Tichborne has been detained a prisoner in France from the commencement of the present war.

‡ Of these, NICHOLAS, the Elder, was Proctor of Oxford University in 1640, and afterwards Dean of Dromore in Ireland; THOMAS, the second, was Canon of Peterborough; and EDWARD, the youngest, was Physician in Ordinary to Charles the Second, who created him a Baronet.

lege, Oxford; but afterwards removed to Merton College, for the greater advantage of his mathematical and philosophical pursuits. Here, following the estimable practice recommended by the immortal Verulam, he sought the arcana of Nature through the medium of experiment, and obtained so much reputation, that in 1628 he was admitted perpetual Fellow of his College, and obtained the degree of Master of Arts. To increase his knowledge of the mathematics he studied the Oriental Languages, and at length determined to explore the fountains of science in the countries from which they sprung; and receiving pecuniary assistance from Archbishop Laud, he quitted his native land for Egypt in the year 1637. Visiting Rome in his progress, he became acquainted with the venerable Kircher. He afterwards proceeded to Padua and Venice; and again embarking at Leghorn, sailed for Constantinople, where he experienced a most flattering reception from the illustrious Patriarch Cyril Lucar, who greatly assisted him in his search after valuable Greek and Arabic manuscripts; to purchase which, at whatever price, he had obtained a commission from his patron, Archbishop Laud. Proceeding to Egypt, he contemplated the antiquities of Alexandria, where his minute investigations delayed him for several months. The Pyramids, or Sepulchres of the Egyptian Kings, were the next objects of his research; and his interesting observations on these stupendous monuments were published in 1646, under the title of *Pyramidographia*. Having gratified his thirst for knowledge in ancient lore, as far as circumstances would permit, and formed an ample collection of gems, statues, manuscripts, &c. he again embarked for Europe in 1639. Four years afterwards he was appointed Savilian Professor of Astronomy; and as the estates charged with the support of that Professorship had then suffered from the fatal scourge of Civil War, he was permitted to retain his Fellowship; though, according to the Savilian Statute, it should have been vacated within six months after his acceptance of the vacant chair. On the triumph of the Parliament, he suffered in the general fate of the Royalists, and was expelled from the University, which he quitted with deep regret. He then repaired to London; and, to render a trifling patrimony

patrimony adequate to his maintenance, commenced the publication of his writings. He died in 1652, soon after the completion of his fiftieth year, and was interred in St. Bennet's Church. Several of his works were made public after his decease, and others are yet in manuscript: a complete list of his productions has been given in the first volume of the Hampshire Repository. His death is thought to have been hastened by his incessant application to study, and by the anguish of mind that followed his expulsion from College.

At SELBORNE, a sequestered but pleasant village on the western skirts of Woolmer Forest, was a PRIORY of Canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, founded by Bishop Peter de Rupibus, in the year 1232. The original endowments were but small; yet in the century succeeding its establishment, a very large proportion of the contiguous lands were annexed to its possessions. The first considerable benefactor after the founder, was Sir Adam Gurdon, a bold and daring outlaw, who supported the Barons in the troublesome reign of Henry the Third; and even after the defeat and death of their leader Montfort, Earl of Leicester, fed the flames of war from his own resources. His residence appears to have been at TEMPLE, in this parish; and to this vicinity he retired, and entrenched himself in the woods towards Farnham, on the discomfiture of his party. Occasionally quitting his fastnesses, he spread desolation and terror through the adjacent country; till the fame of his deeds having determined the gallant Prince Edward to effect his downfall, he was attacked in his camp by a body of forces, commanded by the Prince in person. Finding all lost, he endeavored to escape; but being pursued by Edward, was overtaken, wounded, and thrown to the ground. The magnanimity of the Prince was equal to his bravery; and his greatness of mind determined him to convert an enemy to a friend: he raised the fallen veteran, pardoned him, and introduced him to the Queen, who was then at Guildford, that very evening. This unmerited and unexpected lenity melted the heart of the rugged Gurdon at once; he became in an instant a loyal and useful subject, was trusted and employed in matters of moment by Edward, when King, and confided in till the day of his death.

Among the gifts made by Gurdon to the Priory, was that of a piece of land near the Church, called the *Pleystow*, or Play-place, now the *Plestor*; this was no sooner granted, than the Prior procured a charter for a market from Henry the Third, anno 1271, and Selborne became a market-town; but how long it enjoyed that privilege is uncertain. The Priory continued to flourish till the fifteenth century, when dissensions arising among the Canons, it was gradually deserted, and at length dissolved, and its possessions granted, by Bishop Waynflete, to Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1482; the suppression was confirmed in the second year following by Pope Innocent the Eighth. The Priory buildings have all been entirely demolished. Among the relics in the possession of the Canons, was enumerated 'a bone of the little finger of St. John Baptist.*

In the Saxon times, Selborne was a Royal manor; and Editha, Queen of Edward the Confessor, is mentioned in the Domesday Book, as a former owner: that record also notices a *Church* here; and it is probable that the low massive columns that support the roof of the present fabric were parts of the ancient edifice. The tower is embattled: the whole building is low and plain, consisting of three aisles, with a kind of transept, or chantry, on the north side. The altar-piece is decorated with an excellent painting by Albert Drurer, representing, in two compartments, the offerings of the Magi: this was presented to the parish by the late Rev. Gilbert White, the celebrated Historian of Selborne.† The number of inhabitants of this parish as enumerated in 1801, was 762; that of houses 127. *Cornua Ammonis* are frequently found near the village; and fossil shells are very common in the surrounding district.

At SOUTHINGTON, formerly *Sudington*, about one mile east of Selborne, was a PRECEPTORY of Knights Templers, who are conjectured

* White's Antiquities of Selborne; from Mat. Paris; et Trivetii Annale.

† The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne, by this gentleman, is a very entertaining and instructive work. It was originally published in quarto; but the Natural History has been lately separated from the Antiquities, and published in two volumes 8vo.

conjectured to have had the Gurdon manor-house, and manor of Temple, bestowed on them by Johanna, daughter of Sir Adam Gurdon, above-mentioned: this Preceptory is not noticed by Bishop Tanner.

In the marshy bottoms of WOOLMER FOREST, many subterraneous trees have been found, and dug up with the peat; and during the dry summer of 1741, the extensive sheet of water called *Woolmer Pond*, having been dried up by the heat, its bed was carefully searched, and many hundreds of Roman coins, and some medallions, were discovered in it: among them were many of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, and of the Empress Faustina.

PETERSFIELD,

THOUGH only a Chapelry to Buriton, is a market and borough town, of considerable antiquity, and now chiefly supported by the passage of travellers, it being situated on the high road to Portsmouth. Its first charter of incorporation was granted by Queen Elizabeth, who vested its government in a Mayor and Commonalty, and empowered them to return two members to Parliament; two returns had, however, been previously made; the one in the thirty-fifth of Edward the First; the other in the time of Edward the Sixth. The right of election, as determined by a committee of the House of Commons, in the year 1727, "is in the freeholders of lands, or ancient dwelling-houses or shambles, or dwelling-houses or shambles built upon ancient foundations, within the said borough:" the number of voters is about 150. Near the Chapel is an equestrian statue of WILLIAM THE THIRD, standing on a lofty pedestal, and inscribed to his memory by the late William Jolliffe, Esq. of much fame in the political annals of this borough. The number of houses in this parish, was returned under the clauses of the Population Act, at 208; that of inhabitants at 1159.

MAPLEDURHAM, about two miles south of Petersfield, was the seat, and some time residence, of the historian Edward Gibbon, Esq. whose father purchased the estate in the reign of George the First from the heirs at law of Ralph Bucknal, Esq. and it was

afterwards confirmed to him by the trustees of the South Sea Company. The manor has since been sold to Lord Stawell; and again to Henry Bonham, Esq. At BUTSER HILL, a short distance to the south, Aubrey places a considerable *Camp*.

A few miles to the west from Petersfield, are the villages of EAST and WEST MEON, mentioned in the Domesday Book as the property of the Bishop of Winchester, and then known by the general name of *Mene*, or *Menes*. In the Church at East Meon is a very ancient FONT, bearing an exact resemblance to that in Winchester Cathedral,* and most probably the work of the same artist, and given by the same Bishop.† The upper part, or bason, is placed on a circular shaft of three large single stones, and its corners are supported on circular pillars without bases, and having capitals of plain upright leaves.

At WARNFORD, in the grounds belonging to a seat long occupied by the late Marquis of Clanricarde, is a venerable ruin of an ancient mansion, corruptly called KING JOHN'S HOUSE, but more properly *St. John's House*, from its having been the property of the St. Johns, Lords of Basing, who inherited it from the De Ports. This ruin is about eighty feet long, and fifty-four wide; its walls are four feet thick, and constructed of flint set in grout work. It is divided into two apartments; the largest was probably the Barons' Hall, and measures forty-six feet by forty-eight. Four well-proportioned columns, with their bases and capitals entire, and four half columns let into the east and west walls, appear to have supported the vaulted roof, now wholly down; most of the arches of the windows and doors are circular. In some maps, of as distant a date as 1610, this is marked as a ruined place; and in writings which belonged to the Marquis of a still earlier date, it is named the *Old House*. Grose, and some other antiquaries, have imagined it the shell of the original Church erected here on the spreading of Christianity; but the two Latin inscriptions, on the walls

* See its description, p. 75, *et seq.*

† Walkelin, who was himself the founder of East Meon Church.

walls of the present *Church*, which stands within about twenty yards, though quoted in support of this opinion, are demonstrative of the contrary: both of them refer to Adam de Port; and both of them evince, that the building on which they appear, was rebuilt, or renovated, on the ancient site. The tower of the present Church is also in a different order of architecture from the other parts, which are in the pointed style. On OLD WINCHESTER HILL, a considerable eminence rising south from Warnford, some writers have placed a *Roman Camp*.

UPHAM, about three miles north-westward from Bishops Waltham, was the birth-place of DR. EDWARD YOUNG, the far-famed author of the *Night Thoughts*. He was born in June, 1681: his father was then Fellow of Winchester College, and Rector of this parish; but he afterwards resigned his fellowship, and was appointed Chaplain to King William and Queen Mary, and made Dean of Sarum. The Dean placed his son upon the foundation of Winchester College, where he had himself been educated: from this seminary, in his nineteenth year, he was removed to New College, Oxford: hence, he removed to Corpus Christi College; and again, in 1708, to All Souls, where he was nominated to a law fellowship by Archbishop Tennison. In 1714, he took his degree as Bachelor of Civil Laws; and five years afterwards, his Doctor's degree. His application and learning may be inferred from a singular speech of the atheist Tindal, who spent much of his time at All Souls, and used to argue with him on topics of religion. "The other boys," said Tindal, "I can always answer, because I always know whence they have their arguments, which I have read a hundred times; but that fellow, Young, is continually pestering me with something of his own." Young, however, is most known as a poet; and though ambition prompted him to venture upon the troubled sea of politics, he obtained from it but little celebrity, and no promotion. In May, 1731, he married Lady Elizabeth Lee, daughter to the Earl of Lichfield, and widow of Colonel Lee, by whom she had had three children; one of whom, who has been always considered as the poet's Narcissa, died in her seventeenth

year, at Nice, and, as Young's biographer* expresses it, in her *bridal hour*. Her husband, the Philander of the *Night Thoughts*, was Mr. Temple, son of Lord Palmerston; he died shortly after the decease of his bride, and soon afterwards Lady E. Young followed her much-lamented relatives: how nearly together their deaths occurred the poet himself informs us.

Insatiate archer! could not one suffice?
Thy shaft flew thrice, and thrice my peace was slain!
And thrice, ere thrice yon moon had fill'd her horn!

To the sorrow Young felt at his losses, the world is indebted for the *Night Thoughts*. By his marriage he had one child, whom calumny has marked as the infidel Lorenzo; yet, with how little justice, will at once be felt from the remark, that he was but a boy of eight years of age when the character of Lorenzo was written! Of the other poems of Young, the *Universal Passion* is characterized by Dr. Johnson as a very great performance. "His species of satire (observes the English moralist) is between those of Horace and of Juvenal; he has the gaiety of Horace, without his laxity of numbers; and the morality of Juvenal, with greater variation of images." Of his three tragedies, the *Revenge* is incontestably the best; his *Busiris* is too remote from Nature to satisfy the judgment; and his *Brothers* is strikingly insufficient in most of the qualities of dramatic writing. Of his prose works, the *Centaur not Fabulous*, has obtained the principal share of the approbation of posterity. He died in the year 1765, at the age of eighty-four.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM,

SAYS Leland, "is a praty tounlet. Here the Bishop of Winchester hath a right ample and goodly maner-place, motid about, and a praty brooke (the Hamble) running hard by it. The maner-place hath been of many Bishops' building; most part of the three parts

* The Rev. (now) Sir Herbert Croft, by whom it was written for Dr. Johnson to be published in his edition of the Poets.

parts of the base court was buildid of brik and timbre by Bishop Langton; the residew of the inner part is all of stone." This manor, which includes Waltham Chace, has belonged, from time immemorial, to the See of Winchester: *Semper fuit de Episcopatu*, is the memorandum concerning it in the Domesday Book. The town is still small, as in Leland's time, but enjoys a good trade, and sends large quantities of leather to Guernsey and London, and to the neighbouring fairs. The population of this parish in 1801, was returned at 1773; the number of houses at 191.

The Bishop's PALACE, or CASTLE, is situated on the southwest side of the town, and still exhibits traces of its ancient magnificence. It was originally built by Bishop Henry de Blois, brother to King Stephen; but was altered and repaired by many succeeding Bishops. Much of its grandeur was probably owing to the architectural taste of William of Wykeham, who made it his favorite residence, and here terminated his active career at the age of eighty. The area of the outer or base court, which, according to Leland, was built by Bishop Langton, is now a farm-yard: the remains of several brick chimnies, apparently of the time of that prelate, are still to be seen on the north side. The Great Hall, in the second or inner court, the front wall of which remains almost entire, was sixty-six feet in length, twenty-seven in width, and twenty-five high, and lighted by five large windows of magnificent proportions: the ruins are mantled with ivy. Besides the Hall, here are the remains of a tower, about seventeen feet square. This Castle was demolished in the Civil Wars: the Bishop's park is now a farm.

In the early part of the last century, this neighbourhood was infested by a notorious gang of deer-stealers, who, from their custom of blacking their faces before they sallied forth to commit their depredations in the adjacent forests, obtained the name of WALTHAM BLACKS. So strange was the infatuation, indeed, that, for a time, no young person, unless he was a *Hunter*, to use their own phrase, was allowed to be possessed of either manhood or gallantry.*

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* White's History, &c. of Selborne, p. 17, 18.

At length the atrocities practised by some of the confederates became so great as to demand the interference of the Legislature; and in the ninth of George the Second, anno 1723, an act was passed to restrain their enormities. Severity was necessary; but this act, called the *Black Act*, has another character; it is sanguinary, and now comprehends more felonies than any law that has ever been previously framed for domestic regulation. For this reason, the late Bishop Hoadley, when urged to re-stock Waltham Chace, refused, observing, that "it had done mischief enough already."^{*}

The road over Waltham Chace conducts to the pleasant village of WICKHAM, anciently the manor and seat of the family of Uvedale, one of whom, Nicholas Uvedale, deserves to be remembered with gratitude by the *Wyckhamists*,[†] because that, when Constable

^{*} White's History, &c. of Selborne, p. 17, 18. The *Waltham Blacks* are said, by some writers, to have received their name from carrying on their depredations in Waltham Forest, in Essex; but this is evidently a mistake. The preamble to the *Black Act* is as follows: "Whereas several ill-designing and disorderly persons have of late associated themselves under the name of *Blacks*, and entered into confederacies to support one another in stealing and destroying of deer, robbing of warrens and fish-ponds, cutting down plantations of trees, and other illegal practices; and have, in great numbers, armed with swords, fire-arms, and other offensive weapons, several of them with their faces blacked, or in disguised habits, unlawfully hunted in forests belonging to his Majesty, and in the parks of divers of his Majesty's subjects; and destroyed, killed, and carried away the deer; robbed warrens, rivers, and fish-ponds; cut down plantations of trees; and have likewise solicited several of his Majesty's subjects, with promises of money, and other rewards, to join them; and have sent letters, in fictitious names, to several persons, demanding venison and money, and threatening some great violence, if such, their unlawful demands, should be refused; or if they should be interrupted in, or prosecuted for, such their wicked practices; and have actually done great damage to several persons who have either refused to comply with such demands, or have endeavoured to bring them to justice, to the great terror of his Majesty's peaceable subjects: Be it therefore enacted," &c.

[†] *Wyckhamist* is the colloquial name assumed by all that have been educated in the College founded by Wyckham, at Winchester.

stable of Winchester Castle, he became the patron of WILLIAM OF WYCKHAM, their great founder; and, in conjunction with Bishop Edyngton, first introduced him to Edward the Third. Wyckham was born here in the year 1324; his origin was humble, but his talents and address were superior to those of the majority of his fellow-men. Under the patronage of Edward, his genius could not fail to exert its powers: the Monarch loaded him with preferment, and the Bishop proved himself worthy of his Sovereign's favors; for never did a mitre adorn the brow of a more illustrious and munificent prelate. His skill in architecture was very great; and most of the great works executed in the latter days of Edward, were done under his direction. In 1364, he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal; and two years afterwards, Bishop of Winchester, which he held till his death in 1404.*

The Church at Wickham is a neat structure, with some remains of Anglo-Norman architecture at the western entrance. WICKHAM CORNER, the Parsonage-house, in which Dr. Warton passed the evening of life, is agreeably situated at the eastern extremity of the village. Several other pleasant seats ornament this vicinity.

From Wickham a sandy and gravelly road leads along the skirts of the Forest of Bere to SOUTHWICK, where was formerly a PRIORY of Black Canons, which became of some historical celebrity, from its having been the scene of the marriage of Henry the Sixth with Margaret of Anjou.† The Priory was originally built at Porchester, by Henry the First, in the year 1133, but was shortly afterwards removed to Southwick, where it continued to flourish till the period of the Dissolution. Its privileges were extensive; and in 1235, the Canons procured the grant of a market and a fair
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* For additional particulars relating to this Prelate, see Vol. I. p. 202, and Vol. VI. p. 53, 81.

† A curious picture of these nuptials was engraved to illustrate Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*. Kemp, Archbishop of York, is represented holding the *pallium* over the conjoined hands of Henry and Margaret: among the attendants are Cardinal Beaufort, and the Dukes of Gloucester and Suffolk.

to be held here, but the former has been long disused: they also obtained liberty of free-warren in the year 1321. At the Dissolution, the annual revenues of this establishment were, according to Dugdale, valued at 257l. 4s. 4d. but, according to Speed, at 314l. 7s. 10d. The site and demesnes of the Priory were then granted to John White, Esq. and his wife Catherine; and descended from them, by the female line, to Colonel Norton, who signalized himself in behalf of the Parliament during the Civil Wars, and whose family had long resided at Southwick, in great respectability. His grandson, Richard, the last male heir, was celebrated for his extraordinary will, by which he bequeathed Southwick, and all his other estates, to the amount of 6000l. per annum, together with personal property of the value of 60,000l. to the Parliament of Great Britain, in trust for the use of "the poor, hungry, thirsty, naked strangers, sick, wounded, and prisoners, to the end of the world." The will was afterwards set aside, from the evident marks of insanity which appeared to have dictated its clauses. The late owner of these estates was Robert Thistlethwayte, Esq. maternally descended from the Nortons. SOUTHWICK PARK, now the seat of — Ellis, Esq. includes the site of the Priory, only a small part of which now remains. The Manor-house is a large building of some antiquity, having two wings terminating in gable ends, and embattled. In this edifice two Monarchs have been entertained; Charles the First, and George the First. The former was here when the Duke of Buckingham, whom he had accompanied thus far from London, was assassinated by Felton at Portsmouth.

PORTSDOWN HILL is a narrow, lofty eminence, running east and west for nearly seven miles: the upper part consists of chalk, broken into vast hollows; the lower part is a brown loam. The prospects from the summit are of great extent, and considerable variety. On the south, it commands a noble view of the British Channel, which is lost only in the mist of distance, with its majestic feature the Isle of Wight, which is here seen through nearly its whole length. The dark blue tints of the New Forest mingle with the horizon in the west: on the north, the eye commands the extensive

tensive Vale of the Forest of Bere; not as in ancient times, imperious and inaccessible, but agreeably interspersed with inclosures, corn-fields, and cottages; and on the east, the graceful spire of Chichester Cathedral appears rising above the level of the wolds of Sussex. To enliven and animate the whole, multitudes of ships and vessels, of every denomination and size, are seen navigating the channel, or remaining stationary in the harbour and Dock-yard of Portsmouth. On the eastern extremity of Portsdown, a Telegraph was erected during the last war. On Portsdown Hill, an annual *Fair* is held on the twenty-sixth of July, for the sale of goods, wearing apparel, grocery wares, toys, horses, cheese, &c. The fair is attended by great multitudes of people; and all kind of sports, including horse-racing, are carried on during its continuance. Its contiguity to Portsmouth renders it of much use to the small traders and shop-keepers of that town.

Near the bottom of Portsdown Hill is PURBROOK, late the seat of Charles Taylor, Esq. by whose laudable attention to agriculture, the surrounding lands have been greatly improved. The Mansion erected by that gentleman, is a handsome building, with detached wings for offices.

HAVANT

Is a neat and respectable town, consisting principally of one long street, crossed by a second at right angles. Here, in the morning of the twenty-fifth of October, 1734, a shock of an earthquake was felt, which continued for two or three minutes; and, after a short intermission, another shock, which lasted a similar space of time, was also experienced: no damage was done; but the tremulous motion that accompanied the shocks spread great alarm. The number of houses in this town, as returned in 1801, was 345; that of inhabitants, 1670: the latter are chiefly supported by fowling and fishing. The market was granted by King John, probably through the intercession of the Monks of Winchester, to whom the manor was granted by Ethelred. The *Church* is dedicated to St. Faith, and stands in the centre of the town: it is built in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the intersection;

tion; the columns of the nave are of Saxon architecture; the arches are pointed. In the wall of the south transept are some remains of stone seats. The whole building displays specimens of the style of very different periods.

WARBLINGTON, about half a mile eastward from Havant, gave name to the ancient family of the De Warblingtons, who settled here about the time of Henry the Third, and continued to flourish till the time of Edward the Third; several of them having filled the offices of Sheriffs and Knights of the shire. The manor having escheated to the Crown, was given to Ralph de Monthermer, second husband to Joan of Acres, daughter of Edward the First and Queen Eleanor: from him it descended to the *Montacutes*, of whom John, Earl of Salisbury, was beheaded by the inhabitants of Cirencester, for conspiring to assassinate Henry the Fourth.* From this family it passed to the *Cottons*, of whom Sir Richard Cotton, Knt, was Comptroller of the Household to Henry the Eighth; and the last of whom, Thomas Cotton, Esq. bequeathed it to Thomas Panton, Esq. in 1736, since which it has become the property of Mrs. Ann Morris. The ruins called WARBLINGTON CASTLE, are supposed to have formed part of the ancient mansion of the Warblingtons, or of the Montacutes; but most probably of the latter, as the style of building does not agree with an earlier period: part of the materials are also of brick, faced with hewn stones. It appears to have originally been a square pile of about 200 feet, surrounding a quadrangular court; but the only part now standing, is the gateway and tower; and even this is fast mouldering to decay. The whole was surrounded by a fosse, about ten feet deep, and including about an acre of ground. Before the northern angle appears to have been a sort of entrenched camp, of five acres, now overgrown with wood, surrounded by a bank nearly eight feet high, and a ditch of a similar depth to that round the Castle. The *Church*, which stands at a little distance from the Castle, is traditionally said to have been founded by two maiden sisters, the last of the De Warblingtons; and the singularities of
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* See Vol. V. p. 603.

the interior architecture give countenance to this report. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a small Chapel, or Oratory, at the termination of each aisle. The aisles are separated from the nave by pointed arches, "erected on columns, with this distinction, that the columns on the north side are plain, firm, and solid, about eight feet in height, including the bases and capitals, and about two feet in diameter. The arches on the south side are supported by groups of columns of singular elegance; in the centre of each group is a small octagon pillar of free-stone, which is surrounded by four pillars of grey marble: the bases, which connect these groups, are neatly moulded; as are the capitals; and the latter have also additional ornaments."* Several stone coffins are deposited in the aisles; two of them, which, from their situation, effigies, and other circumstances, appeared to have belonged to the foundresses, were lately opened; in one was a perfect female skeleton; and in the other, the remains of a second skeleton, with the teeth perfectly sound, and beautiful, and the hair undecayed. All the coffins are similar in form, but of various lengths, from five feet and a half, to seven feet, and gradually diminishing from the head to the foot. "They are each made of one solid stone, hollowed out for containing the corpse, with receptacles for the head, neck, shoulders, arms, legs, and feet, particularly and curiously formed."† The chancel has been formerly paved with small square tiles, of various patterns, inlaid with a yellow composition; several of the designs are grotesque; some display the spread eagle, and others three fleurs des lis, supported by two birds.

EMSWORTH, in Warblington parish, and on the verge of Sussex, is an improving and busy place, pleasantly situated at the head of an inlet of the sea, and immediately opposite to Thorney Isle. Many small vessels are employed in the trade of this port; and the inhabitants derive additional sustenance from ship-building, rope-making, and other maritime occupations. In the winter of 1739, a *Swan* was killed here in the harbour, having a collar round its neck, impressed with the Royal arms of Denmark.

HAYLING

* Hampshire Repository, Vol. II. p. 146.

† Ibid, p. 148.

HAYLING ISLE includes about 5000 acres of land, completely surrounded by the sea, and divided into the parishes of North Hayling and South Hayling. The land is mostly arable, and separated into small farms: the general rotation of crops, is first, wheat; second, barley, or oats; and third, barley and clover: every fourth year the ground lies fallow: the harvest is commonly reaped in July or August: the average rent of the land, which in North Hayling is chiefly common field, is about fifteen shillings an acre. In some parts the soil is too retentive of water to be cultivated, and nearly 1000 acres consists of sea-beach: about 1000 more acres are appropriated to pasture, but these are frequently overflowed by the sea. The principal branch of trade carried on in this Island, is the making of *Salt*, which has been an article of manufacture here time immemorial. One saltern is recorded in the Domesday Survey, which paid six shillings and eightpence; at present there are five. Two fisheries are also mentioned in the same record, as being then existing here. This manor was very early given to the Monastery at Winchester, but was by some means alienated, and afterwards granted by Henry the First to a PRIORY, which had been founded here previous to the Norman Conquest: this became a cell to the Benedictine Abbey of St. Gymege in Normandy; but on the suppression of the Alien Priories, its possessions were given by Henry the Fifth to his new foundation of Carthusians at Sheen. On the Dissolution of the lesser Monasteries, the lands of Hayling Priory were granted to the College at Arundel, in exchange for other estates: on the surrender of that College, they were regranted to Henry, Earl of Arundel, and now belong to his descendant, the Duke of Norfolk. A small Church has been built in each parish: that of Hayling South is a neat edifice. The houses are principally constructed of brick, manufactured on the Island: their number, as returned in 1801, was 102; that of inhabitants, 578. On this Island is an establishment of about twenty persons, belonging to the Excise, who are stationed here to prevent smuggling. Over the bar, or bed of sand, at the entrance of LANGSTONE HARBOUR, which lies between this Island and that of Portsea, is sufficient depth of water for vessels

of from thirty to seventy tons; and several of those sizes are employed in importing corn and coal. The oyster fishery was formerly considerable here, but has latterly declined through the numbers of persons engaged in it: the oysters are of very fine flavor. The *Convict* ships are stationed in this Harbour.

The narrow channel, or branch of the sea, which separates *Portsea Isle* from the main land, on the north-west side of Langstone Harbour, connects the latter with Portsmouth Harbour, a principal station of the Roman navy, and at the head of which is the strong fortress called PORCHESTER CASTLE. The precise origin of this structure is unknown; but this spot was certainly occupied by a fortress, that was successively possessed by the Britons, the Romans, the Saxons, and the Normans; and the modes of building practised by the three latter, are yet discoverable in the walls and towers of the present Castle. By the Britons it was denominated *Caer Peris*: this appellation was altered by the Romans to that of *Portus Magnus*, from the Roman name of the harbour: its modern name of *Port-Chester* is evidently Saxon.

This Castle is situated on a neck of land, jutting out a considerable way towards the middle of the harbour. It is a noble pile, of a quadrangular form, surrounding an area of between four and five acres; and still in sufficient preservation to be used as a place of confinement for prisoners of war; from 3000 to 5000 of whom have been secured here at one time. The walls are from eight to twelve feet thick, and about eighteen high, "having in many places a passage round them, covered with a parapet: it has eighteen towers, of various shapes and magnitudes, including those of the keep; and is defended on the north, west, and south sides, by a ditch, varying in breadth, and fifteen feet deep:" on the east are two ditches, which extend to the water, and have probably been filled by the influx of the tide. "The entrance on the west side is thirty feet deep, and fourteen wide, under a square tower: on the inside, over the gate, are two projecting figures, somewhat resembling Egyptian sphynxes. In the east wall, nearly opposite this gate, is another of like dimensions: there are likewise two sally-ports."

"The

“The keep encompasses a parallelogram of sixty-five by one hundred and fifteen feet. It has four towers; three of them standing on the outside wall: one of these, which is much larger than the rest, forms the north-west angle of the square: the fourth tower stands at the south-east corner of this building. Here are many rooms, several very large, and some arched with stone; among them is one which appears to have been a chapel: the entrance is through a gate on the south side, only eight feet wide. Several of these towers, as well as parts of the walls, are now in ruins.”*

In a more minute description of this Castle, it will be found, that the remains of Roman workmanship are particularly observable in the outward walls, and in the round and semi-circular towers that defend it at unequal distances. The round towers are placed at the north-east, south-east, and south-west angles; the north-west angle is now taken up by the great square tower of the keep: some of these towers are twenty feet, and others nineteen in diameter; and, in general, they project about eighteen feet and a half from the wall. In several of them are still visible regular rows of Roman brick, dividing the rows of stone-work; and particularly in one, on the south side, in which are three rows very distinct: in the wall itself on this side they may also be traced, and indeed in many other parts; though, from the vast alterations made in successive ages, the regular courses have in many places been broken off, and in others wholly obliterated. A great circular arch of stone, about eight feet in width on the interior side of the east gate, or entrance, “has very much the appearance of having been originally Roman, and perhaps even a remaining part of the identical *Prætorian* portal.”† Many Roman coins, and Roman medals, have been dug up here at different times. The extent of the outward walls, exclusive of the projecting parts of the round corner towers, is about 620 feet on the north and south sides; and 610 on the east and west. In

* Grose’s *Antiquities*, Vol. II. p. 212.

† King’s *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. p. 27. In this work is a very particular description of this Castle, illustrated by elevations and ground-plans.

In the keep, which forms the north-west angle of the Castle, traces of the architecture of the Saxon and Norman periods, and even of yet later ages, to the time of Queen Elizabeth, are plainly to be seen. The great tower is lofty, and contains two vaults, or dungeons, at bottom; with the remains of three double apartments above them, in so many several stories: its walls are nearly eight feet thick; and its external dimensions on the north and south, fifty-seven feet; and on the east and west, fifty-eight feet. All the light it receives is from narrow loop-holes; excepting only in the third story, where, on two sides, in what appears to have been the state apartments, are small windows in the very plainest Saxon style: all the windows are on the sides, within the area. Adjacent to this tower on the east, and, indeed, immediately connected with it, are the remains of a building which appears to have been subsequently formed as an entrance; the original entrance having apparently been by a flight of steps on the same side.

As a protection to this tower, which, in its original construction, Mr. King supposes to be Saxon,* the works now connected with it, and which surround the inner court, were unquestionably erected in the Norman times, and, as supposed, between the period of the Conquest and the reign of Edward the First. Many alterations have, however, been made in this part, and particularly about the time of Edward the Third; and again in the reigns of the Henrys Sixth and Seventh. In these additional buildings were a great dining hall, and various apartments for domestic purposes, with apartments over them for lodging the garrison and servants; and also a grand stair-case, leading into the great tower: But the original destination of all the parts in this quarter of the Castle cannot now be ascertained, as they have frequently been altered during the last century. The most curious part, however, of this inner, or *Norman* court, as it may be called, is its fortified entrance, which opens from the outer area on the east. At the extremity on this side was a noble portal, with an obtuse pointed arch; and in this was a great strong gate, about eight feet

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wide:

* *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. p. 27.

wide: further on, at about sixteen feet and a half from this, was a portcullis; and beyond that, a second great gate. Eighteen feet more inward still, was a second portcullis; and about eleven feet and a half beyond this, was a third great gate: thus far the whole passage of entrance was only eight feet four inches in width. Nearer the court, the side walls increase in thickness, from four feet nine inches, to nearly six feet; and here the entrance passage, which is still continued to the extent of forty-three feet more, becomes wider; its whole breadth being eighteen feet and a half; in this part was designed a place for barricadoes; whilst over the whole vaulted passage, the entire length of which is nearly ninety-four feet, were perforations, and machicolations, for pouring melted lead, boiling water, &c. on the heads of assailants: and to these machicolations, and to the battlements above, was a passage from the top of the surrounding walls of the inner court.* In this court was a draw-well, which still remains open.

The entrance to the outer area, or court, on the east, is by a great Norman tower, built on the Roman works, now much dilapidated; and formerly secured by a portcullis, and double folding doors, strongly barricadoed. The west, or opposite entrance, is also by a strong Norman tower, about thirty-five feet wide, and thirty deep, having a passage through the centre, about eight feet in width: this also is in ruins.

The *Sacellum of the Pratorium* of the Romans is supposed, by Mr. King, to have been on the spot now occupied as the site of the parish Church, which is an edifice of great antiquity, dedicated to St. Mary, standing within the outer court, and nearly opposite to the east entrance. Though part of it has been rebuilt, and other parts repaired at various periods, it still displays many specimens of Saxon architecture, particularly in the west front. Its original form was that of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection; but the south transept has been taken down. All the doors and windows of the ancient part have semicircular arches; and those of the west end are decorated with double zig-zag

ornaments:

* *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. p. 34—35.

ornaments: the arch of the west doorway has likewise some other ornamental mouldings; and all of them spring from two columns on each side, with sculptured capitals: the great west window is bricked up. Here it was that Henry the First founded the Priory of Black Canons, afterwards removed to Southwick. Within the Church is a monument to the memory of SIR THOMAS CORNWALLIS, Knt. Groom Porter to Queen Elizabeth, and James the First, who died in November, 1618: his bust represents him with short hair and beard, and a sash over his shoulder. The font is curious.

“In the rolls of Parliament, eighteenth of Edward the First, anno 1290, a complaint is exhibited against Henry Huse, Constable of the King's Castle of Porchester, reciting that John, Bishop of Winchester, being absent in foreign parts on the King's service, and all his possessions being in the King's protection, he the said Henry, with his armed men, foresters, and others unknown, hunted at their pleasure in the free chace of the said Bishop.”

In the year 1299, twenty-seventh of Edward the First, the town and Castle of Porchester, with the forest, then valued at 16l. 13s. were settled on Queen Margaret as part of her dower: and in a register of the Abbey of Glastonbury, it appears that, in the twelfth of Edward the Third, John Hacket, Lieutenant to the Earl of Arundel, was Constable of this Castle; for the defence of which, and the guard of Portsmouth, the Abbot was bound to find three men at arms for his lands in Wiltshire, and one for those in Berks.* This Castle descended from the *Nortons* of Southwick, in the same manner as their other estates, to the late Robert Thistlethwayte, Esq. of whose family it has been rented by Government, since it became a place of confinement for prisoners. The prisoners are lodged in ranges of wooden buildings two stories high, erected on the north side of the great court, which is separated from the south side by a double picketing, so disposed as to leave a passage through the Castle from gate to gate. In another range of building, that extends towards the middle of the area

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* Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II. p. 214.

from the south side of the east entrance, is the Cookery, &c. The south-west quarter of the area is parted off, as an airing place; and a certain number of prisoners, in proportion to the whole, are daily admitted to walk here: within this division also is the Hospital for the sick. Round the north-west angle of the Castle, beyond the moat, is a parade and barracks for the soldiers who guard the prisoners.

It has been asserted by some authors, that the Roman General Vespasian, landed here, on his first arrival in Britain; but this has been contradicted by others on better testimony. That it must have been in his possession, is, however, extremely probable; as the conquest of the Isle of Wight could hardly have been otherwise effected. That several of the Saxon invaders landed here is more certain, and particularly Porta, with his sons, Bieda and Megla, by whose aid Cerdic was enabled to establish the kingdom of the West Saxons. At what period it was deserted of inhabitants is unknown; though presumed to be on the rise of Portsmouth, after the sea had in some degree retired from the upper parts of the harbour.

The village of Porchester, or PORCHESTER-STREET, is about a mile long, ranging on the road towards Fareham. Here, between nine and ten years ago, the sea rose so high in a tremendous storm, that boats went up to the very extremity of the village; the banks having in many places been broken down by the strength of the waves. The publicans of Porchester and Southwick, enjoy the peculiar privilege, under charter from Queen Elizabeth, of being exempted from having any soldiers billeted on them, or quartered in their houses.

CAM's HALL, the seat of John Delmè, Esq. is an elegant modern building, standing in a pleasant park, on the east side of the lake or inlet of Portsmouth Harbour, that runs up to Fareham.

FAREHAM,

THOUGH only "a fischar village" in Leland's time, is now a respectable and populous town, chiefly inhabited by persons employed in maritime occupations; and, indeed, indebted for its whole

whole importance to the naval establishment at Portsmouth. Sloops, and smaller vessels, are built here; and a considerable trade in coal and corn is carried on. The government of the town is vested in a Bailiff, two Constables, and two Ale-tasters. The number of houses, as returned under the late act, was 555: that of inhabitants, 3030. The neighbourhood is pleasant, and enlivened by various handsome seats.

TITCHFIELD,

ABOUT three miles westward from Fareham, is a small town, pleasantly situated near the Titchfield River, and inhabited by many respectable families. The *Church* is a spacious fabric, of the workmanship of different ages: the north side is reported to have been built by William of Wyckham; the south side is more ancient. In the part called the south chancel, is an interesting monument to the memory of SIR THOMAS WRIOTHESLEY, afterwards first Earl of Southampton; JANE, his Lady; and HENRY, their son, the second Earl; all of whom are represented by effigies on the tomb. Four fairs are held here annually. Under the act of 1801, the houses in this parish were enumerated at 554; and the inhabitants at 2949.

At a short distance from this town, on the north, are the ruins of TITCHFIELD HOUSE, the ancient seat of the Wriothesleys. It was erected, by the first Earl of Southampton, on the site and with the materials of an ABBEY, founded for Premonstratensian Canons, by Bishop Peter de Rupibus, in the year 1231. The annual revenues of this establishment, at the period of the Dissolution, amounted, according to Dugdale, to 249l. 16s. 1d. but according to Speed, to 280l. 19s. 4½d. Its possessions were then granted by Henry the Eighth to his favorite Secretary, Wriothesley, who built here, says Leland, “a righte statelie house embattled, and having a goodlie gate, and a conducte castelid in the middle of the court of it, in the very same place wher the late Monasterie stooode.” This building is now in a very dilapidated state, the entrance gateway being the principal part left standing;

sixteen rooms having been pulled down within these few years for the sake of the materials. The old stables yet remain, and are worthy of notice. The Chapel is wholly in ruins. This estate is the property of John Delmè, Esq. of Cam's Hall, whose father purchased it of the third Duke of Beaufort, who had married a co-heiress of the first Earl of Gainsborough, and who had himself obtained it by his marriage with the daughter of Thomas, last Earl of Southampton. In Titchfield House, Charles the First was concealed after his escape from Hampton Court, in 1647, and previous to his again resigning himself to the power of Colonel Hammond, who conducted him to the Isle of Wight.

Near FORTON LAKE, a creek of Portsmouth Harbour, about a mile to the north from Gosport, is the NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL connected with the establishment of Portsmouth. The buildings consist of four pavilions, united by an arcade, with houses for offices, &c. In each pavilion are six large wards, and proper accommodations for attendants. On the north side of the Lake, and near the entrance, is the MAGAZINE, where, and in a smaller building dependent on this, on an Island above, all the *Powder* for the service of this port is stored. The Magazine is bomb-proof, and strongly arched: a small cut runs up from the harbour to this depository. Near it are the ruins of an ancient *Castle*, called *Borough Castle*, traditionally ascribed to King Stephen.

Near FORTON, a pleasant and populous hamlet, on the road to Gosport, is the FRENCH PRISON, an extensive range of buildings, with an Hospital, and proper offices: the whole is secured by a strong inclosure, strictly guarded.

GOSPORT,

LIKE Fareham, was, in Leland's time, only a village, inhabited by fishermen; but it is now an extensive market-town, with a very considerable trade, and particularly flourishing in times of war, from its contiguity to the naval arsenal at Portsmouth. Its importance, indeed, is now so great, that of late years it has been regularly fortified on the land side, by a line of bastions, redoubts, counterscarps,

counterscarps, &c. that extends from Weovil to *Stoke*, or more properly, *Alverstoke Lake*. Within the works on the *WEOVIL* side, is the King's *Brewery* and *Cooperage*, with an immense range of store-houses for wine, malt, hops, &c. This place communicates with the sea by means of a large bason and canal, with extensive quays, where vessels of considerable burthen can take in their stores. Many small sloops belonging to Weovil are employed in the conveyance of wine, beer, and water, to the ships in the harbour. On the Weovil side are also the new *Barracks*, an extensive range of buildings, with every convenience for a great number of men.

The approach to Gosport by water is extremely fine, as the various forts, and large piles of building in its vicinity, are then seen to great advantage: and the town itself, considered as a sea-port, is well built, and handsome. The principal street extends westward from the harbour to the works, but is somewhat obstructed by the Market-house; others run parallel with this, and, like it, are crossed by various lesser streets, &c. Exclusive of these, different ranges of building extend along the shore, and near the fortifications, for the most part consisting of respectable houses.

Gosport is a chapelry to the neighbouring village of Alverstoke. The *Chapel* is a spacious building, standing in a large well-planted cemetery, to the south of the town. The interior is neat, and disposed into a middle and two side aisles: the organ was formerly the property of the Duke of Chandos, of Canons. Here is also a large Meeting-house for Dissenters, and a Chapel for Roman Catholics. Several *Charity-Schools* have been established here by subscription; together with some *Alms-Houses* for distressed widows; and a large, airy and commodious *Work-House* for the poor. The markets are held three days weekly, and are much frequented: fish and vegetables are sold here in great plenty; the latter are not only brought from a considerable distance inland, but also from the Isle of Wight. Here are several *Breweries*, and a very extensive *Iron Foundry*, where numerous articles are manufactured for Government by contract. The amusements of the more respectable classes are sought in a monthly assembly, with occasional

concerts: a neat *Theatre* has also been erected here. The population of the parish of Alverstoke, including the inhabitants of this town, was returned under the act of 1801, at 11,295; the number of houses, at 1906. The police is well regulated. The connection between Gosport and Portsmouth is preserved by the numerous ferry-boats that ply across the harbour, which in this part is about three quarters of a mile in width.

The ROYAL HOSPITAL at HASLER, for the reception of sick and wounded seamen, was built between the years 1746 and 1762, on the very earnest recommendation of the late Earl of Sandwich. It is situated within 400 yards of the extremity of the point of land which bounds the west side of the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour, and consists of an extensive front, and two wings, each consisting of two distinct ranges of building. These stand within the airing ground, which is almost a mile in circumference, and surrounded by a wall twelve feet high. Opposite the grand entrance is a neat military Pavilion, or Guard-House, where a constant guard of marines is kept to prevent desertion. The extent of the grand front, or centre building, is 189 yards: the pediment displays a sculpture, in Portland stone, of the Royal arms, with the figures of Navigation and Commerce, (the former pouring balm upon the wounds of a sailor,) and other appropriate ornaments: the length of each wing is about 184 yards. The wards are all uniform, sixty feet long, and twenty-four broad; each containing accommodations for twenty patients, with apartments for nurses, &c. Several other buildings are also within the walls for the use of the Governor, Lieutenants, and other officers and servants belonging to the establishment, which consists of more than 260 persons: the Chapel is a neat edifice, seventy-two feet in length, and thirty-six broad. Upwards of 2000 sick or wounded men can be admitted at the same time into this Hospital. The regular expenses of the establishment in salaries, &c. is upwards of 5000*l.* annually. The utility of this institution is unquestionable; and the great attention that is here paid to the wants of the brave men whom the chance of war has obliged to seek shelter within this asylum, merits the highest praise.

About three quarters of a mile south-west from Hasler Hospital, is FORT MONKTON, a modern and regular fortification, exceedingly strong, and defended by thirty-two pieces of heavy ordnance: to the westward, ranges a strong *Redoubt*; and this, together with the fort, effectually secures this part of the coast. On the shore to the eastward, a high and massive stone Wall has been erected, to preserve the land from the ravages of the sea.

Still further to the east, and near the extremity of the neck of land which bounds the entrance of the harbour on this side, is the BLOCK HOUSE, a very strong fort, defended by a tremendous battery.

THE ISLE OF PORTSEA,

WHICH includes the naval arsenal of Portsmouth within its limits, is wholly surrounded by the sea; its eastern boundary being formed by Portsmouth Harbour, and its western side by Langstone Harbour, while a narrow channel communicating between them, separates it from the main land on the north; the high sea washes its southern shores. Its circumference is about sixteen miles; its length, from north to south, being nearly five; and its breadth, in the widest part, between three and four. The cultivated land is chiefly arable; and some of the farms are of considerable size. Its population is very great; as, exclusive of the towns of Portsmouth, and Portsea, it includes several considerable villages and hamlets; as the Halfway Houses, Kingston Cross, Kingston, Hilsea, &c. On the land side it is defended by extensive fortifications, called the *Lines*; and next the sea, by various forts and batteries. On the east side are several *Salterns*, and a large tract of extra-parochial land ranging along the borders of Langstone Harbour. Part of the manor belongs to the College at Winchester, it having been granted to the *Newan Minster* by Queen Ethelfleda, wife of King Edgar. The communication with the main land is by two bridges, secured by a triple entrenchment; the one for the entrance, the other for the departure of passengers. Hence, a direct road extends to the important towns of

PORTSMOUTH

PORTSMOUTH AND PORTSEA.

THESE, though separated in the more minute regulations of local polity, can hardly be considered as forming more than one town; they are, indeed, both included within the limits of the borough of Portsmouth, both governed by the same magistrates, and both admitted to a participation in the same immunities. Portsmouth, as the more ancient town, has preserved its dignity and precedence in still being the seat of the civil and military establishments; it is also the residence of the Port Admiral: its streets are likewise more spacious; and, in general, its houses and buildings are superior. Portsea, however, is by far the largest and most populous town; and has the advantage in having both the Dock Yard and Gun-Wharf within its precincts.

The origin of PORTSMOUTH is affirmed, by Camden, to have been owing to the retiring of the sea from the upper parts of the Harbour, which rendering Porchester less convenient, the inhabitants removed to Portsea Isle, and built Portsmouth. The earliest historical notice concerning it, appears in the Saxon Chronicle, *sub anno* 501, which styles it *Portesmuthe*, as the author imagines, from *Porta*, the Saxon Chieftain, who landed here; but more probably from its situation at the mouth of the port, or harbour. Here Robert, Duke of Normandy, landed with a strong army, in 1101, with intent to dispute the possession of the throne with his brother, Henry the First; but the interference of the great Barons caused him to relinquish his design, and consent to terms of conciliation. About this period, or soon afterwards, Portsmouth seems to have attained to a considerable degree of importance, as the Saxon Chronicle informs us, that Henry the First passed the Whitsun week here in 1123; and in 1140, the Empress Maud landed at this port, with her brother Robert, the brave Earl of Gloucester, and marched hence to Arundel.

In the year 1193, Richard the First granted the town its charter, in which, after declaring that he retains *Portesmue* in his own hands, with all that belongs to it, he grants to its Burgesses the privileges of

of an annual fair for fifteen days, and a weekly market; together with all the immunities, &c. enjoyed by the citizens of Winchester and Oxford. As a consequence of this charter, the inhabitants requested the presence of the itinerant Justices, and presented Henry the Third with three casks of wine, in order to prevail on him to command their attendance. In the beginning of the reign of Richard the Second, the town was burnt by the French, its growing trade having excited the jealousy of that nation; and several attempts have been since made by them to destroy it by the same means. Edward the Fourth, fully sensible of the importance of this port to the rising glory of the British navy, began to secure it by fortifications; and Richard the Third, impressed by similar ideas, carried on and extended the works which his predecessor had commenced. From this period it gradually increased in strength as well as consequence; till, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, it had become the principal naval arsenal in England; if not, indeed, the only port deserving that appellation. Leland, who visited it in this reign, describes it as follows:

“ The land heere, on the east side of Portesmuth haven, rennith farther by a great way strait into the se, by south-est from the haven-mouth, than it doeth at the west poynte. There is, at this point of the haven, Portesmuth toun, and a great round toure, almost doble in quantite and strenkith to that that is on the west side of the haven right agayn it; and heere is a mighty chaine of yren, to draw from towre to towre. About a quarter of a mile above this toure is a great dok for shippes, and yn this dok lyeth part of the rybbes of the *Henry, Grace of Dieu*, one of the biggest shippes that hath beene made *in hominum memoria*.* Ther be above this dok crekes in this part of the haven.

“ The towne of *Portesmuth* is murid from the est tour a forough length with a mudde waulle armid with tymbre, whereon be great
peaces

* This ship is represented in the painting formerly at Windsor (see Vol. I. p. 218) of *The Embarkation of Henry the Eighth at Dover*, preparatory to his interview with Francis the First in *Le Champ de Drap d'Or*. This picture, with its companion, representing the *Interview* itself, has been lately presented by his Majesty to the Antiquarian Society.

peaces both of yren and brassen ordinauns; and this peace of the waulle having a diche without it, rennith so far flat south south-est, and is the place moste apte to defende the town ther open on the haven. Ther rennith a diche almost flat est for a space, and wyth-in it is a waulle of mudde like to the other, and so thens goith round aboute the toun to the circuite of a myle. Ther is a gate of tymbre at the north-est ende of the toun, and by it is cast up an hille of erths dighed, wherein be gunnes to defend entre into the toun by land. Ther is much vacant ground within the toun waulle. Ther is one fair streate in the toune from west to north-est.

“ I learnid in the toun, that the toures in the haven-mouth were begon in King Edward the 4th tyme, and sette forwarde yn building by Richard the 3: Kyng Henry the vij. endyd them at the procuracion of Fox, Bishop of Winchester. King Henry vij. at his first warres into Fraunce, erected in the south part of the towne 3 great bruing houses, with the implements, to serve his shippes at such tyme as they should go to the se in tyme of warre. One Carpenter, a riche man, made of late tyme, in the mydle of the high streate of the toun, a Toun-house. The toun is bare, and little occupied in time of peace.”*

Henry the Eighth was the first Monarch under whom the Navy obtained a systematic establishment. In the preceding reigns, the naval force “ was either hired from the merchant, foreign or native, or supplied by the Cinque and other ports of the kingdom; but the navy was under no sort of regulation: the bargain was made with the first, or the demand made from the last, according to their different assessments.”† Henry the Seventh, indeed, appears to have made Portsmouth a Royal Dock; but no regular system was entered into before the time of his successor, to render the navy a national concern. Henry the Eighth first erected a Navy Office, and ranged his ships into different classes, keeping a regular inventory

* Itin. Vol. III. p. 81, 82.

† Pennant's Journey to the Isle of Wight, Vol. II. p. 137.

tory of their various stores.* In this reign, long after the famed Interview in *Le Champ de Drap d'Or*, Francis the First, having quarrelled with Henry, fitted out a vast fleet, under the command of D'Annebaut, Admiral of France; who, in July, 1544, came off the Isle of Wight, and stretched along the shore to St. Helen's, with intent to destroy Portsmouth. The English fleet, under Viscount Lisle, in the Great Harry, anchored off Spithead to receive them; and a distant cannonade continued for two days between the two fleets; but the French at length hauled their wind, and, after plundering some part of the Isle of Wight, retired to their own coasts. During the engagement, the *Mary Rose*, one of the largest of the English ships, and commanded by Sir George Carew, was overpowered by the weight of her own ordnance, and heeling greatly, the water rushed in at her port-holes, and sunk her: by this accident nearly 600 men, with Sir George, were drowned.

Even in the time of Edward the Sixth, Portsmouth was almost the only naval station, and the *only* Dock-Yard that could be considered as a national one. All the ships that Britain could then boast, and which, including galleys, pinnaces, and row-barges, were fifty-three, lay in this port; with the exception of two at Deptford strand, and one, the *Henry, Grace de Dieu*, at Woolwich.† The whole number of men belonging to these vessels, including soldiers, marines, and gunners, was 7780. Edward seems to have been deeply impressed with the necessity of making Portsmouth impervious to attack, as appears from his letter to his friend Barnaby Fitz-Patrick, written during his progress in 1552, and first published by Horace Walpole.

“ From thes,” writes the youthful Sovereign, “ we went to Portsmouth toune, and there viewed not only the toune itself, and the haven, but also divers bulwarkes; in viewing of which, we find the bulwarkes chargeable, massie, and ramparted, but il facioned, il flanked, and set in unmete places; the toune weak in comparison
of

* See Archæologia, Vol. VI. p. 179, &c.

† Merchant's vessels are of course not included in this statement.

of that it ought to be, to house great (for wthin the *wallis* are faire and large closis, and much vacant rome;) the haven notable greate, and standing by nature easie to be fortified. And for the more strength thereof, we have divided two strong castellis on either side of the haven, at the mouth thereof: for at the mouth of the haven is not past ten score over, but in the middal almost a mile over, and in length for a mile and a hauf, hable to bear the greatest ship in Christendome." Since this period, the fortifications have been greatly increased, and are now in a state of sufficient security to be almost denominated impregnable.

In the reign of Charles the First, Portsmouth was appointed as the rendezvous for the armament destined to relieve the Protestants in Rochelle, then besieged by Cardinal Richelieu. The Duke of Buckingham, the great favorite of the Sovereign, who had come from town purposely to hasten the preparations, was here assassinated, while surrounded by his principal officers, by the enthusiast Felton, a Lieutenant in one of the regiments ordered for embarkation, and who also had come from London solely to effect his dire purpose.* During the Civil Wars, Portsmouth was garrisoned for the Parliament.

Charles the Second was married in this town to Catherine, the Infanta of Portugal: this Monarch improved and enlarged the fortifications, particularly by surrounding *South-Sea Castle* with a kind of star-fort; but this was partly blown up by accident in the year 1759; soon after which, 6937l. was granted by the Parliament for improving the works. William the Third, also, made considerable additions; and many others have been completed since the year 1770, at a vast expense.

The most recent fortifications are those on the Portsea side; and here the line is so well secured, that the approaches of an enemy

* The house in which the Duke was stabbed, was No. 10, in the High Street, and is yet standing, but uninhabited, nearly opposite to the Meeting-House. The assassin, far from attempting to escape, justified the deed, considering the death of Buckingham as essential to the glory of his country: he was executed at Tyburn, and his body was afterwards hanged in chains at Portsmouth.

enemy could only be made in front; and even there, but on few points. The surrounding country is also so low, as to be completely commanded by the elevation of the works, which are faced with stone, as far as the angles of the parapet. The ditches are wide and deep; and the whole line is further strengthened by strong and capacious outworks. At the head of the creek which separates Portsea from Portsmouth, is an extensive ravelin, which connects these works with those of the latter town: the communication between the towns is preserved by a long bridge, which leads to St. Thomas's Gate.

The fortifications on the Portsmouth side, extending along the beech, from the town to South-Sea Castle, form a noble semicircular terrace, which is planted with elms, and being kept in excellent order, makes a delightful promenade, upwards of a mile in length. From the Platform, which is more immediately the resort of company, is an extremely fine sea-view, including the anchorage at Spithead, and the Isle of Wight in the distance: the more contiguous scenes are scarcely less beautiful.

The great and progressive increase in the naval establishments and trade of Portsmouth, and the vast augmentation of buildings dependant thereon, at length rendered the town by far too small for its population; and early in the last century, but not till then, an open common, on the north side, was chosen as the most convenient spot for additional houses. As these became inhabited, new ones were erected, and were again rapidly increased by others, till the new buildings assumed the appearance of a spacious suburb, and were denominated for many years, by the general name of the *Common*, or *Portsmouth Common*. Still increasing with an almost unparalleled rapidity, the offspring outgrew its parent town, which lying within the old fortifications, presented no vacant space for additional buildings. Assuming consequence with extent, its original name of the Common was discarded, and in an Act of the Legislature, passed in the year 1792, for paving, and otherwise improving the place, it displays its rising honors under the appellation of "*The Town of PORTSEA.*" Even in the suburbs of this new town, and beyond the fortifications that environ it, several ranges of building have been erected of late years. The

The DOCK-YARD, which must be considered as the germ of all the modern additions, and the *Gun-Wharf*, are both on the Portsea side; yet though close to the town, they are rigidly excluded from all connection with it, but what depends on the requisite accommodations of the workmen employed. The Dock-Yard is very extensive, and contains within its precincts, every article of which the navy can be in want. The number of its buildings are considerable; they consist of immense store-houses, handsome residences for the principal officers, a spacious and elegant mansion for the Commissioner, an Academy for naval instruction, a neat Chapel, extensive workshops, mast-houses, &c.

The entrance from the town is by a lofty Gateway, with a smaller one on the right; these are carefully attended, so that no strangers can be admitted without proper authority: the Porter's residence is a large building to the left. Passing the Mast-Houses, and a handsome modern-built Guard-house, the *Pay-Office* attracts attention: this has every convenience for its purpose; and beneath is a spacious piazza, to shelter those who cannot be immediately admitted to the upper offices in bad weather. Proceeding onwards, the *Royal Naval Academy* arrests the sight: it consists of a centre and two wings, furnished with every requisite accommodation for the important office of instruction it is designed to effect. In one of the wings is a very fine *Model* of the *Victory*, a first rate of 110 guns, that was lost near the Race of Alderney in 1774, with upwards of 1000 men, while under the command of Admiral Balchen: both the ship itself, and the model, were built in this yard; the latter is uncommonly curious: on this building is a very excellent Observatory.

Somewhat further is the *Commissioner's House*, a spacious building, consisting of a centre, with an elegant portico, and two wings, properly fitted up, both for the purposes of business and habitation. Here his present Majesty resided during his visit to Portsmouth, after Lord Howe's victory over the Republican fleet of France, on the first of June, 1794. This mansion has been built since the year 1773: behind it is a large and well-disposed garden. A long range of *Store-Houses* succeeds; and to the right of these a neat modern

modern *Chapel*, in the cupola of which is hung the bell that belonged to the unfortunate Royal George, lost in the bosom of security, while careening at Spithead. Not far distant is the *New Guard-House*, having a handsome portico, fronting the entrance to Cumberland-Street.

Passing the *Anchor Wharf*, where a very extensive range of anchors of every dimension are kept ready for immediate service, the *Rope-House* attracts notice. This is a spacious pile, three stories high, and of vast length; its admeasurement, in this respect, being 1094 feet; its breadth is fifty-four feet. Here the cables are formed, a work of immense labor; but of late years much facilitated by the use of machines. The cables are twisted in the lower story; in the upper ones the various processes of spinning the hemp, and preparing the threads, are carried on. The operations in this division of the yard are particularly ingenious, and highly interesting.

Leaving the stables and other buildings on the right, and passing various store-houses, and piles of timber for the service of the yard, the visitor enters a kind of square, the east side of which is formed by a row of handsome houses, inhabited by the principal officers, and the north and south by a variety of offices, store-houses, &c. the west side is open. In the centre of this square, on a marble pedestal, is a gilt statue of WILLIAM THE THIRD, in a Roman habit; this was the gift of Colonel Richard Norton, of Southwick Park. The area of the square is used as a repository for timber, immense quantities of which are here piled up.

Proceeding to the vast building called the *Anchor Forge*, the sight and hearing are both confounded by the terrific din, and Cyclopean scenes that spread through this abode of horrid imagery. The large and dusky figures of the workmen, sometimes glaring with the reflection of the immense fires, at others obscured, or dimly seen through the dismal volumes of smoke that arise "on all sides round;" the sullen sound of the enormous sledges, the lighter clanking of the hammers, and the sparkling of the metal as it is crushed into form by the descending stroke, all combine most powerfully to impress the mind with sensations of fearful admiration. The labor of the Cyclops in the caverns of Etna, cannot be

more faithfully represented. Many of the anchors that are here wrought, weigh from forty to ninety tons each.

The next impressive objects which demand the attention of the visitor, are the ships of war upon the stocks; the height, the immense size, the solidity and compactness of the frame-work, and the bold curvatures formed by the spreading sides of these ‘bulwarks of the ocean,’ cannot fail to excite the most lively interest in the breast of every one who knows that the safety of England is wholly owing to its *Wooden Walls*.

The *Jetty-Heads*, with the *Basons* and *Docks*, are next in order, and, with the ships in the harbour, present a very grand and interesting spectacle; to which the extraordinary capaciousness of the new range of Docks, &c. greatly contribute. These immense works are rendered perfectly convenient for their respective purposes, and while the ships continue under repair, are kept completely dry; though alongside the jetties in their immediate vicinity, the depth of water is so great, that the largest first-rates lie close to the shore. The *Rigging-Houses* deserve particular attention; as well as many other parts of this celebrated arsenal.* Great improvements have been made in all the departments of the yard within the last thirty years; and in addition to the other machines employed to facilitate labor, two *Steam Engines* have been set up, one of them on a very large and improved scale.

“Where such immense structures,” observes a late writer, speaking of this yard, “as first-rate ships of war, are constructed, and refitted in whole fleets, with a degree of expedition truly astonishing, machines, workshops, and magazines, must necessarily be of relative size and consequence.”† Every thing, indeed, is here upon a mighty scale; and, abstractedly considered, the efforts of human

* As the general arrangement and business of the Dock-Yards are similar, we shall refer the reader to the description of Plymouth in our Fourth Volume, for more enlarged particulars of their general economy. To a Briton, perhaps, the subject is one of the most interesting that can employ the mental powers.

† Monthly Magazine, Oct. 1801. Vol. XII.

man industry seem too weak and impotent to achieve the important works that are here displayed. To what, however, is the labor of man, practically exerted, absolutely incompetent? Even the inflexible and knarled oak* bends to the efforts of his power; and the proud fabric that stems the ocean's rush, and braves the horrors of the midnight storm, is indebted for its creation and security, to his activity and persevering exertions.

The number of workmen employed in the Portsmouth Yard is very great, but varies considerably, according to the business to be executed, and to the more or less dispatch that may be necessary. Even in peaceable times, upwards of 2000 men are commonly engaged in its different departments; but in times of war, this number is frequently doubled, and even 5000 persons have been employed here together. The officers, who have regular appointments, consist of a Commissioner, whose salary is 800*l.* per annum, with three Clerks; a Clerk of the Cheque, a Store-keeper, a Master Shipwright, a Surveyor's Clerk, two Master's Attendants, an Extra Master Attendant, three Assistant Master's Shipwright, a Clerk of the Rope Yard, a Master Rope-Maker, a Boatswain, a Purveyor, a Master Boat-BUILDER, Chaplain, Surgeon, &c. Here, as at Plymouth, the workmen have had of late years, an extra allowance of six-pence daily in lieu of chips, which were formerly considered as perquisites.

Though every precaution that can be devised, is taken to guard against the destructive element of fire, three great conflagrations have occurred here since the year 1760: the first of these appears to have been accidental; but the second was, most probably, the effect of design, as the last undoubtedly was. The first commenced in the night of the third of July, and raged for a long time with amazing fury. The night had been extremely tempestuous; the thunder was awfully loud, and the flashes of lightning were uncommonly vivid: the weather had also been uncommonly sultry. Many hundred tons of tar, oil, and other combustibles, were consumed, besides 1050 tons of hemp, 500 tons of cordage, and about

700 sails. The fire was attributed to the lightning; and a watchman deposed, that a meteor, or fire-ball, passed near him about ten minutes before the fire broke out: it was remarked also, that the windows of the hemp store-house had that night been left open in order to air it. The second fire occurred on the morning of the twenty-seventh of July, 1770; and, from various circumstances, occasioned great suspicions of its having been purposely ignited. The effects were more tremendous than had accompanied the former: the store-house for pitch and tar was rapidly destroyed; and immediately afterwards, the flames burst out in four different parts at once, and that with such extreme vehemence, that the destruction of the whole Yard was fully expected. The wind, however, shifted to a favorable quarter; and, by the active exertions of the workmen, assisted by a body of seamen and marines, and the voluntary aid of numerous individuals, the progress of the fire was arrested, and at length finally overcome. The third and last fire was on the seventh of December, 1776: in this instance the incendiary was discovered, and suffered the punishment of death. His real name was John Aitkin; but the appellation by which he is most known, is that of *Jack, the Painter*. He is supposed to have acted under foreign influence; and his attempts had previously excited considerable alarm at Plymouth and Bristol. His plans were deeply laid; and to effect his designs, he had invented a very ingenious machine. With this he contrived to conceal himself in the Dock-Yard, and lodging his machine among the cordage, he set fire to it: in the morning he passed the gates without being seized, and on the same day the fire broke out, though earlier by some hours than he had purposed. Assistance being immediately given, and the wind blowing at the same time towards the water, the flames were prevented spreading in any considerable degree; though the Rope House, and some adjoining store-houses, were consumed. The incendiary soon quitted Portsmouth, but was apprehended about two months afterwards; and the whole progress of his villainy being traced, he was condemned at Winchester, on incontestible evidence, and was executed near the Dock Gates, on the seventh of March, 1777. Previous to his suffering the

the penalty of the law, he made all the reparation in his power, by pointing out some effectual measures for securing the Dock-Yards from similar attempts.

The GUN WHARF includes several ranges of building for the reception of the naval and military artillery, stores, &c. Some of the store-houses are very large, particularly two, which, with their dependencies, are adapted to contain all kinds of necessaries for the sudden equipment both of a fleet and army. On the wharf is the grand depot for guns, carronades, and mortars, with shot and shells of almost every dimension and weight: these are ranged in immense piles of a pyramidical form. Here also, in times of peace, the guns from all the ships that are laid up in ordinary* at this port, are lodged; each ship's guns being kept in a separate tier, while the carriages are deposited away in the same regular manner in proper store-houses; so that all may be re-delivered at a moment's notice. The *Small Armoury* is a spacious building, of late erection, sufficiently large to contain arms for 25,000 men; the arms are arranged under various figures in exact order: the rooms below are appropriated to the artificers who are employed in keeping the arms in perfect readiness for service. The houses inhabited by the Storekeeper, and other officers, who have the care of the ordnance, are handsome structures.

The principal buildings dependent on this grand naval emporium, on the Portsmouth side, are the Victualling Office, the Government House, the houses of the Lieutenant Governor, and Port Admiral; and the Marine and Military Barracks. The *Victualling Office* comprehends several extensive ranges of building, including a noble house for the Agent Victualler, and a large Store-house, running the entire length of St. Thomas's Street, and containing the provisions and liquors for the supply of the navy: in the other buildings the beef and pork are prepared and salted, the biscuits baked, &c. The grain for the latter purpose is ground at the *King's Mill*, a building on the Portsea side, erected on piles, at an expense of nearly 7000*l*. The mill is worked by a stream

* For an explanation of this term see Vol. IV. p. 178, (note.)

of salt-water, admitted from the harbour by means of a great sluice on the creek which separates the towns. The sluice, or mill-dam, is closed at high water; and, on the ebbing of the tide, the water is again worked back into the harbour.

The *Government House* is situated at the upper end of the grand Parade; this is reputed to have originally formed part of a "*faire HOSPITALE*," or *Domus Dei*, founded for twelve poor men, by the Bishop Peter de Rupibus, and the annual revenues of which were, at the Dissolution, valued at 33l. 19s. 5¼d. It displays, however, but little vestige of its monastic origin, the alterations having been great and frequent. Since it became appropriated to the Right Hon. Sir W. A. Pitt, K. B. the present Governor of Portsmouth, many improvements have been made, and it now forms a very eligible residence. Near it is the ancient *Chapel* belonging to the Hospital; this has been repaired of late years, and assigned to the use of the officers and soldiers of the garrison. The residences of the Lieutenant Governor, and of the Port Admiral, are handsome and convenient buildings; particularly the latter, which is situated in the High Street, and has been fitted up in a very elegant manner at the expense of Government.

Portsmouth, as already mentioned, received its first charter from Richard Cœur de Lion, since which various charters have been granted by succeeding Kings: that under which the town is now governed, was bestowed by Charles the First. The Corporation consists of a Mayor, Recorder, twelve Aldermen, an unlimited number of Burgesses, and some inferior officers. The first return to Parliament was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. The right of election, as determined by the House of Commons in the reign of William the Third, is vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses: the number of voters is about 110.* The public business is mostly transacted at the *Town-Hall*, a large building, injudiciously placed near the middle of the High Street, with an open space for the markets beneath: this edifice was repaired

* Some curious particulars relating to the parliamentary history of this town, may be seen in the *Hist. of Boroughs*, Vol. II.

paired and enlarged in the year 1796. In the High Street is also the *White House*, or *Town Prison*, having different apartments for separating the prisoners into classes.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Thomas á Becket, is a spacious building, erected at different periods of time: the tower, which is the most modern part, is 120 feet, forming a good mark for seamen. Behind the altar is a large and elaborate monument, or rather cenotaph, in memory of the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM, having in the centre a marble urn, in which the heart of that ill-fated nobleman is said to be deposited: the Duke's body was buried in Westminster Abbey. The parish *Church* of Portsea is situated at Kingston, a hamlet about two miles distant: this inconvenient circumstance, and the augmented population of the town, have occasioned two neat Chapels to be built here: these are respectively dedicated to St. George and St. John. The internal arrangement of *St. John's Chapel* is particularly elegant; the altar is placed in a semicircular recess, separated from the body of the Chapel by a screen of Corinthian columns, fluted; the ceiling is richly decorated with stucco-work. This Chapel was consecrated in the year 1789. Besides these places of worship, there are ten or twelve Meeting-Houses within these towns and the immediate environs, principally for Dissenters.

Among the charitable institutions is a *Free Grammar School*, founded in the last century, by Dr. Smith, a Physician of this town, and by whom it was placed under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford. This has already become a sinecure; but several other *Schools* of more effective use have been established here; one of them is under the patronage of a Friendly Society, and is kept in the *Society Hall*: the honorary members of this society include many gentlemen of the first respectability in Hampshire. Here is also an *Alms-House* for eight poor widows, of late endowment. The poor of both parishes are chiefly employed in picking oakum; but the general system under which they are managed is very distinct; and the rates are in consequence much higher at Portsmouth than at Portsea, where the regulations are most judicious. The *Poor-House* of Portsmouth is an old build-

ing, standing in a very dissolute part of the town, and much confined; that of Portsea occupies a more open spot about a mile distant, having a large area and garden within its walls: at Portsea, also, the parish officers may be considered as holding their appointments for life, as they are always re-chosen annually. They are generally shipwrights belonging to the Dock, who are deserving of preferment, and nominated on vacancies, by the principal officers of the yard.

Many improvements have been made in both towns within the last thirty or forty years. The paving of Portsmouth was completed in 1775, at an expense of nearly 9000*l.* levied under an act passed in 1768: the paving of Portsea commenced in 1792, but is not entirely completed. The ancient regulations of watch and ward are yet enforced at Portsea; and a certain number of the inhabitants parade nightly, or find substitutes for that purpose: in some parts, however, the expense of watching and lighting is defrayed by subscription. In Portsmouth, the charges of lighting and watching are defrayed by a rate raised under a particular act.

The commercial character of these towns has been greatly improved within the last century; and even in time of peace, the trade is now very considerable. The annual fair, or *Free Mart*, as it is called, originally granted by Richard the First, is still held in the High Street, and still lasts during its original term of fifteen days, commencing on the tenth of July: no person can be arrested within the precincts of Portsmouth during its continuance. The markets are held thrice weekly, and are well supplied with all kinds of provision. In Broad Street, which forms part of the western suburb, or Portsmouth Point, is the *Custom-House*, a large and convenient structure, with an extensive establishment, including several fast-sailing cutters for the prevention of smuggling. "This part of the town is admirably situated for commerce, the inhabitants on the north side, having generally an immediate communication with the water. The place where the merchant ships lie, is a large bay between the gun-wharf and the point, having the advantage of an excellent quay, and all its appropriate appen-

dages: this communicates with Portsmouth by a large gate, denominated the Quay Gate, leading directly to the Victualling Office; and with Portsea, by a road which passes the King's mills and gun wharf." At the point, and close to the mouth of the harbour, is a spacious and convenient *Bathing-House*.

At high water, Portsmouth-Point is completely insulated; and the communication with the town is then by a draw-bridge. Several extensive *Breweries* are established at Portsmouth; and for commercial convenience, a *Bank* has been erected on the Parade.

The amusements of the upper classes are sought in subscription assemblies, held at the Crown inn, occasional concerts, &c. These, however, have less influence than the pleasures of the *Theatre*, which is always crowded, and generally suffered to remain open somewhat longer than the 'law allows.' Among the diversity of ranks that people a maritime town, and particularly one so extensive as this, some profligacy will always obtain admittance; yet, even in this respect, Portsmouth has certainly been the subject of undeserved reproach. The unfortunate women, whose general habits have rendered them amenable to the police, are mostly confined to particular districts, with which, by some late judicious regulations, the soldiery are debarred intercourse, at least openly. The literary character of Portsmouth is improving, and two newspapers are published here.

The general mode by which the inhabitants are supplied with water, is inconvenient: from the want of reservoirs, or aqueducts, it is carried about in carts, and sold for daily use. A more enlarged degree of public spirit would, perhaps, accomplish the desirable undertaking of conveying it to the houses through pipes, as in the Metropolis: the springs in the vicinity could certainly be formed into a head sufficient for the regular supply.

The population and number of houses in this district, are thus stated in the returns made under the act of 1801. Portsmouth: houses, 1134; inhabitants, 7839. Portsea: houses, 2554; inhabitants, 14,943. Liberty of Portsea, in that part within the Borough: houses, 1651; inhabitants, 9384. Guildable part, or vicinity of Portsea, beyond the Borough limits: houses, 231; inhabitants,

habitants, 1060. The whole number of houses in the district is, therefore, 5570; and that of inhabitants, 33,226. Of this number it is deserving of remark, that the females constitute the majority by 3538. This, however, is a disproportion more apparent than real, as the males who reside here belonging to the army, the navy, and the militia, are not included in the above statements. The number of inns and public houses, was returned at 231. The chief part of those who inhabit Portsea and its vicinity, are the artificers and laborers belonging to the Dock-Yard, and persons employed in retail trades, &c.

Among the natives of Portsmouth whose names deserve the approbation of posterity, is JONAS HANWAY, a celebrated philanthropist, who was born on the twelfth of August, 1712. He was bred a merchant, and having formed a connection with a commercial house at Petersburg, it occasioned him to travel into Persia, of which journey he published an account. He afterwards settled in London, and, in the intervals of business, devoted his whole time to the projecting, and establishment, of societies for benevolent purposes. The *Marine Society*, and the *Magdalen Hospital*, were among the number: and, for his exertions in behalf of the former institution, he was appointed a Commissioner of the Navy. He died in the year 1786.

The capaciousness and safety of PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR are decidedly superior to most others in the kingdom. Secure from every storm, the greatest first-rates may ride here, at the lowest ebbs, without touching ground; and its extent is almost sufficient for the whole Navy of England, great and multitudinous as it is. Even when the sea at Spithead is so agitated by the fury of the winds, that the largest ships are sometimes driven from their anchors, the ships within the harbour remain in perfect security. Every where the bottom affords good anchorage, and is so completely free from bars or impediments, that even a first-rate can make sail at any time of the tide, and quit the harbour in the deep water beneath South-Sea Castle. As the ebb tide is much stronger than the flood, all accumulation of sand is prevented, and the entrance of the port is perfectly free and open. Besides these ad-

vantages; Portsmouth Harbour possesses almost complete security from assault by sea, by reason of the various forts or batteries that defend the approach, and are almost level with the water's edge. Hardly any wind that can blow, could have power to endanger the shipping moored on its wide bosom, so effectually is it sheltered by the position of the surrounding lands.

During the last war, *L'Impetueux*, of seventy-four guns, and the *Boyne*, of ninety-eight, were destroyed by fire in this harbour: the former was one of the prizes taken by Lord Howe, on the first of June, and was set on fire by the accidental ignition of some gunpowder: she burnt to the water's edge; but no further damage was done. The destruction of the *Boyne* was a more tremendous sight: this happened on May-day, 1795. The fire broke out aft, with a fresh breeze at south-west, which occasioned the flames to spread through the whole ship with extreme rapidity. Most of the crew were saved by the numerous boats that went to assist them; but the heat at length became so great, and the danger so imminent, that no further assistance could be given; and, on the turn of the tide, she drifted slowly to the eastward, with the fire issuing through every port-hole. Her lower-deck guns were shotted; and as these went off, much damage was done, and some lives lost. Exactly at five o'clock, six or seven hours after the fire commenced, and when the blazing wreck had drifted nearly to South-Sea Castle, the after-magazine blew up, with an explosion that was sensibly felt over all Portsmouth. The effect was awfully grand; shot and pieces of timber were thrown to a vast distance; and a column of smoke ascended from the inflamed powder, that assumed the most sublime appearance, before it was dispersed by the winds. Several boats were blown to atoms by the explosion, and about twenty of their hands perished. The ships that were leeward when she began to drift, got under weigh, and ran down to St. Helen's to escape the danger.

In the famous reach of SPITHEAD, and immediately off the entrance of Portsmouth Harbour, at about the distance of a mile, the ill-fated Royal George lies buried in the ocean. This ship, carrying 100 guns, and considered as one of the finest in the navy,

was

was sunk by accident in August, 1782. Some repairs being wanting on her keel, to save the delay of going into harbour, she was hove on one side, by the removal of her guns, and while in that situation, a sudden squall from the north-west threw her broad-side on the water, and the lower deck ports not having been lashed down, she filled, and sunk in about three minutes. Her brave Admiral, Kempenfelt, and upwards of 400 of her crew, besides 200 women, perished in her; though every assistance was immediately given by the boats of the fleet, which had just returned from a successful cruize. Her top-masts are yet visible above water. The body of her gallant commander was never found; but a cenotaph in Alverstoke Church records his talents, and his virtues.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT, though included within the jurisdiction of this County, is separated from it by a channel, varying in breadth from two to seven miles, and in former ages distinguished by the appellation of the *Solent Sea*. Many have conjectured that this Isle was originally connected with the main land, but that the violence of the sea had gradually disjoined it from the neighbouring shore. Of this opinion is the learned Whitaker, who remarks, from older writers, that its name is evidently derived from the British *Guith*, or *Guict*, signifying the divorced, or separated: hence arose the appellation of *VECTIS*, or the separated region, for the Isle of Wight.* This opinion is not without its opponents; but the supporters of the affirmative appear to have the advantage both in talents and in number. Diodorus Siculus, who speaks of an Island by the name of *Ictis*, to which he affirms the Britons carried their tin over in carts at the recess of the tide, in order to export it to the opposite coasts of Gaul, is thought by many to allude to the Isle of Wight; and if this could be established, it would at once decide the controversy.

The

* Hist. of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 416.

The original *Tin Staple* was certainly at the *Cassiterides*, or Scilly Isles; but prior to the time of this historian, it had been removed to the Roman *Vectis*, or Isle of Wight. "The Greeks of Marseilles," observes Mr. Whitaker, who quotes Strabo and Diodorus as authorities, "first followed the tract of the Phœnician voyagers; and some time before the days of Polybius, and about 200 years before the age of Christ, began to share with them in the trade of tin. The Carthaginian commerce declined; the Massilian commerce increased: and in the reign of Augustus, the whole of the British traffic had been gradually directed into this channel. At that period the commerce of the Island was very considerable: two roads were laid across the country, and reached from Sandwich to Caernarvon on one side, and extended from Dorsetshire into Suffolk on the other: and the commerce of the coasts must have been carried along them into the interior regions of the Island. The great staple of tin was no longer settled in a distant corner: it was removed from Scilly, and was fixed in the Isle of Wight, or central part of the coast, lying equally betwixt the two roads, and better adapted to the new arrangement of the trade. Thither the tin was carried by the Belgæ; thither the foreign merchants resorted with their wares; and the trade was no longer carried on by vessels that coasted tediously along the winding shores of Spain and of Gaul: it was now transported over the neighbouring channel, and unshipped on the opposite coast. The Isle of Wight was now actually a part of the greater Island, disjoined from it only by the tide, and united to it always at the ebb: and during the recess of the waters, the Britons constantly passed over the low isthmus of land, and carried their loaded carts of tin directly across it."*

The circumstance of the *Tin Staple* being continued in the neighbouring port of Southampton, even so late as the fifteenth century, is thought to corroborate its having been previously fixed at the Isle of Wight. Sir Robert Cotton, in a very curious tract relative to the estates of the Kings of England, observes, that

Henry

* Hist. of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 387.

Henry the Sixth, in the thirty-first of his reign, "arrested all the tin in Southampton, and sold it to his own present use." It appears also from the Rolls of Parliament of the twenty-ninth of the same Monarch, that the Merchants of Genoa, among other privileges, were empowered to receive all the customs and subsidies "arising and growing in the said port," upon all wools, woolfells, hides, *tin*, and other merchandise, till the sum of 8000*l.* should be paid to them for a certain quantity of allom foyle, which the King had taken for his own use.* The removal of the tin staple from the Isle of Wight to Southampton, is supposed to have taken place after the connecting isthmus had been broken through by the sea.

Among the supporters of the opinion, that this Isle was the *Ictis* of Diodorus, was the late Rev. W. Gilpin, who writes thus: "As we entered Lymington River, we found a fresh proof of the probability of the ancient union between Vectis and the main. The tide was gone, and had left vast stretches of ooze along the deserted shores. Here we saw lying on the right, a huge stump of a tree, which our boatmen informed us had been dragged out of the water. He assured us also, that the roots of oaks, and other trees, were often found on these banks of mud; which seems still to strengthen the opinion, that all this part of the coast now covered with the tide, had once been forest-land."† It has also been observed by a gentleman of the Isle of Wight, whose testimony is quoted by Sir Richard Worsley, that "a hard gravelly beach extends a great way across from the Isle, towards the coast of Hampshire, about midway from the extremity of the channel, and corresponding with the place called *Leap*, probably from the narrowness of the pass." Here then is supposed to be the isthmus along which the tin was originally carried to the Isle of Wight.

Borlase,

* Sir Richard Worsley, Bart. in his History of the Isle of Wight, mentions the House where the Stannaries were held at Southampton; and observes, that there is a large cellar, now the quay, which still retains the name of the Tin Cellar, and was most probably the place where the tin was deposited.

† Observations on the Western Parts of England, &c. p. 345.

Borlase, who, in his Natural History of Cornwall, has treated on this subject, conjectures that the *Ictis* of Diodorus must have been near the coast of Cornwall: and Polwhele, the historian of Devon, who adopts a similar mode of reasoning, and pursues it to a considerable extent, concludes, that the real *Ictis* was the place now called the Isle of St. Nicholas, nearly opposite the mouth of the Tamar.

Suetonius, who is the first of the Roman authors that notices the Isle of Wight, records that it was conquered by Vespasian about the year 43: no remains of Roman occupation, however, either of camps, or coins, appear to have been ever met with here. Cerdic, the Saxon Chieftain, and founder of the kingdom of Wessex, made the second conquest of the Isle; and having slain most of its inhabitants, re-placed them by Jutes and Saxons, over whom he placed his nephews, Stuff and Withgar. In the year 661, it was again subdued by Wulphure, King of Mercia, who bestowed it upon Adelwachi, King of Sussex, whom he had previously vanquished, and made prisoner. Ceadwalla, a descendant from Cerdic, again seized it about fifteen years afterwards, as his rightful inheritance; and Bede relates, that he had determined to root out the inhabitants as idolaters; but that Bishop Wilfrid had the address to prevail on him to spare all who would submit to receive baptism. The two youthful brothers of the deposed Sovereign, were, however, put to death, even after they had consented to embrace Christianity.*

The next remarkable occurrence recorded by historians, is the seizure of the Isle by the Danes in the year 787, with design to make it a place of retreat, to which they might retire with their plunder from the neighbouring coasts. How long they continued here is unknown; but in the reign of Alfred, they again landed, and plundered the inhabitants. In 1001, in the time of Ethelred the Unready, they once more seized the Isle, and retained it for many years, making it their head-quarters on this coast, and the place whence they issued to commit their piracies.

In

* See under Redbridge, p. 154.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, it was twice plundered by Earl Godwin; and again in the time of Harold, by Earl Tosti, also a son of the Earl, who had been driven from his government in Northumberland for his oppression and cruelty. On the accession of William the Conqueror, that Sovereign granted the Lordship of the Isle of Wight to his kinsman, William Fitz-Osborne, afterwards Earl of Hereford, "to be held by him as freely as he himself held the realm of England."* Fitz-Osborne had been Marshal of the Conqueror's army at the Battle of Hastings, and, independent of the ties of consanguinity, had, by his general conduct, obtained a very high degree of his favor, insomuch, that, besides being intrusted with the custody of the newly-built Castles of Winchester and York, he was constituted Chief Justiciary for the north of England. In this capacity he acted with distinguished equity and prudence; though, with respect to his Lordship of the Isle of Wight, he seems to have assumed a more absolute authority over his dependants there, than was exercised by William himself over his English subjects; for that King confiscated the lands of such only as had been active in the support of Harold; but Fitz-Osborne ejected indiscriminately all the original possessors, excepting the officers or servants of Edward the Confessor, and granted their lands to his followers.†

This powerful Baron was soon afterwards slain in battle on the Continent. Roger, Earl of Hereford, his youngest son, and successor to the seignory of the Isle of Wight, and all the other lands which had belonged to his father in England, engaged in a conspiracy to dethrone the Conqueror, with Ralph de Waer, Earl of Norfolk, and other nobles, among whom was Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland. The latter, who had only acceded to the plan in a moment of exhilaration, soon disclosed it to the King, who was then in Normandy, and submitted himself to his clemency; but the obdurate Norman, no wise softened at his penitence,

* Chartulary of Carisbrooke Priory, in the possession of Sir Richard Worsley.

† Worsley's Isle of Wight, p. 48.

tence, caused him to be decapitated at Winchester. Earl Roger, who had assembled some forces in aid of his design, retired to his Castle at Hereford; but being arrested, and convicted of treason, was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. "His spirit seems to have remained unbroken by his sufferings; for, at a solemn celebration of the feast of Easter, the King sent him his robes, when he, to show his contempt of what was doubtless meant as a compliment, caused a fire to be made, and burned them. This being reported to the King, he swore by the glory of God, that the Earl should spend the remainder of his life in prison; which oath he strictly kept, as Roger was never released, but died in confinement; and the Isle of Wight, with his other lands, escheated to the Crown."*

Henry the First granted the Lordship of this Isle, with many other lands in Hampshire, and other counties, to Richard de Redvers, Earl of Devon, who had faithfully adhered to his interests during his contention for the Throne with his elder brother, Robert. Baldwin, his son, the second Earl, was a zealous partizan of the Empress Maud, in whose cause he fortified the Isle; but was dispossessed by Stephen, and forced to become an exile. Some accommodation, however, soon afterwards taking place between the opposing claimants for empire, his estates and titles were restored, and descended to his son Richard, from whom they descended to William de Vernon, a collateral branch of the family, and whose surname was derived from the place of his birth in Normandy. This nobleman, who was styled Earl of the Isle of Wight, was one of the four who supported the silk canopy over Richard Cœur de Lion, at his second Coronation at Winchester, after his escape from captivity. King John obliged him to pay a fine of 500 marks, before he would give him permission to exercise the right that appertained to his landed possessions; among which, was the governing his tenants in the Isle of Wight by military service. This, and the many similar acts of oppression, exercised by John on his Barons, occasioned the memorable confederacy which

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forced

* Worsley's Isle of Wight, p. 50.

forced the degraded tyrant to sign the *Magna Charta*; which may justly be considered as the first bulwark raised to liberty after the Norman Conquest. John, however, to employ his own words, was not of a disposition "to suffer fetters of parchment" to restrain his actions; he therefore applied secretly to the Pope, for absolution from the tremendous oaths by which he had sworn to observe the extorted grants; and also empowered his minions to raise soldiers on the Continent, for the purpose of effecting his meditated revenge. While these negotiations were pending he retired to this Isle, that his conduct might be less exposed to observation; and during the time of his residence here, he chiefly associated with fishermen and sailors.*

Isabella de Fortibus, great grand-daughter to William de Vernon, released the Lordship of the Isle of Wight to Edward the First, on her death-bed, for the sum of 6000 marks: and though the validity of the grant was afterwards questioned in Parliament, it was finally determined in the King's favor.† Edward kept it in his own possession till death; entrusting its defence to *Custodes*, or Wardens; one of whom was the celebrated Adam de Gurdon.

Edward the Second granted the Isle of Wight to his favorite, Piers Gaveston: but through the remonstrances of his nobility, resumed the grant the following year, and bestowed it on his eldest son, afterwards Edward the Third, in whose reign, and in that of Richard the Second, it was several times assaulted by the French, and partially plundered. Carisbrooke Castle was then the only fortress on the Isle, and of course the only place to which the inhabitants could fly for refuge. This, in the year 1377, was besieged by the invaders, but without success; and a great number of the assailants was slain; many of them fell into an ambuscade, in
a narrow

* Rapin's Hist. Eng. Vol. I. p. 277.

† See Appendix to Sir R. Worsley's Hist. for the proceedings on this occasion, extracted from the Rot. Parl. eighth and ninth of Edward the Second.

a narrow lane, near the Castle.* When the French quitted the Isle of Wight, they levied a contribution of 1000 marks, and obliged the inhabitants to swear not to resist should they revisit them within a year. In this expedition they burnt the village of Rye, and the towns of Newtown and Yarmouth.

Richard the Second, in the ninth of his reign; granted the Isle of Wight to William Montacute, second Earl of Salisbury, for life. After his death, this Lordship was granted to Edward, Earl of Rutland; and afterwards Duke of York, to which title he was restored in the seventh of Henry the Fourth. This nobleman led the van at the battle of Agincourt, in the third of Henry the Fifth; but being a fat and unwieldy man, he was thrown down in the throng, and smothered. In this reign a large party of Frenchmen again landed on the Isle of Wight; with intent, according to their own vauntings, to *keep their Christmas here*: they were, however, soon forced to retire to their ships with great loss. A short time after this defeat, they made another hostile visit, demanding a subsidy in the name of Richard the Second, and Isabella, his Queen. "They were answered, that Richard was dead, and his Queen sent back to France, without the payment of any subsidy being stipulated: but if the French had any desire to try their prowess, they should not only be permitted to land without molestation, but also be allowed six hours to refresh themselves, after which the Islanders would meet them in the field."† This spirited invitation the invaders thought prudent to decline.

In the seventeenth of Henry the Sixth, Humphrey, the good Duke of Gloucester, succeeded to the Lordship of the Isle of Wight, by virtue of a grant of the reversion from the Duchess of York, to whom it had been regranted on the death of her husband at Agin-

Y 2

court.

* "The lane is still called Deadman's Lane; and a tumulus, where the slain were buried, was exultingly called *Noddies Hill*: the cause of this denomination was in danger of being lost; the hill being built upon, and forming one of the avenues to Newport, is now corrupted into *Node Hill*." *Worsley's Hist. Isle of Wight*, p. 32.

† *Worsley's Hist.* p. 33.

court. This nobleman appears to have retained it till the time of his death; though two years previous to that event, Henry Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, was crowned *King* of the Isle of Wight, by patent from Henry the Sixth, who himself assisted at the ceremony, and placed the crown on the Duke's head.* He died soon afterwards, without male issue; and, on the decease of Duke Humphrey, the Lordship again reverted to the Crown; but was shortly afterwards in the possession of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and father of Edward the Fourth, who was slain at the Battle of Wakefield.

In the thirty-first of Henry the Sixth, the Isle of Wight was granted to Edmund, Duke of Somerset, who had married the sister and coheiress of Henry, Duke of Warwick, in satisfaction, as it was alledged, for "certain sums of money due to him from the King's Exchequer, and for the duties of petty customs in the port of London, which were part of his inheritance."† This Duke was slain at the battle of St. Alban's; and his possessions, including this Lordship, descended to his son Henry, who was beheaded by the Yorkists, after the battle of Hexham.

In the sixth of Edward the Fourth, Anthony de Widville, afterwards Earl Rivers, had a grant of this Isle, together with the Castle of Carisbrooke, and all other rights appertaining to the Lordship. This ill-fated Lord was beheaded at Pontefract in 1483, to further the ambitious designs of Richard, Duke of Gloucester. His brother, Sir Edward Widville, was, in the first of Henry the Seventh, made Captain of the Isle of Wight; and about three years afterwards, to ingratiate himself in the King's favor, by promoting what he conceived to be his wishes, he convened the inhabitants, and persuaded them to undertake an expedition to France, in aid
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* This singular event, observes Sir Richard Worsley, has been hardly noticed by our historians. Leland is the chief authority; but his testimony is confirmed by a painting of the Duke in an ancient window of the collegiate Church at Warwick, in which he is represented with an Imperial crown on his head, and a sceptre before him.

† In Officio Remembr. Thes.

of the Duke of Brittany, who was then in arms against the French Monarch. From the numbers that flocked to his standard, he selected about forty gentlemen, and 400 of the commonalty, and embarked with them for Brittany in four vessels. These auxiliaries were clothed in white coats, with red crosses; and, to make them appear the more numerous, they were united to 1500 of the Duke's forces, arrayed in the same uniform. Victory, however, proved unpropitious; and in a battle fought at St. Aubin's, Sir Edward, and all the English, were slain, except one boy, who reached home with the melancholy tidings. There was scarcely a family in the Isle who lost not some relation or other on this mournful occasion. To encourage an increase of population, an act was soon afterwards passed, prohibiting any of the inhabitants from holding lands, farms, or tithes, above the annual rent of ten marks.

Whether Sir Edward had received a grant of the Lordship of the Isle of Wight is uncertain; but, from the period of his death, it has continued in the Crown; though some lands, that are annexed to the Castle at Carisbrooke, are held by the Governor *jure officii*. The *fee-farm* of the Isle, together with the Castle, and the manors of Swainston, Brixton, Thorley, and Wellow, were, however, leased for life to Sir Reginald Bray, by Henry the Seventh, in the tenth of his reign, subject to an annual payment to the Crown of 307 marks.

From the time that Edward the First purchased this Lordship from Isabella de Fortibus, its defence was generally entrusted to some person nominated by the Crown, and who was distinguished by the appellation of Warden, Captain, or Governor; titles which obtained in the order here enumerated. Richard Worsley, Esq. ancestor to Sir R. Worsley, Bart. of Appuldurcombe, was Captain here in the thirty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, when the French landed 2000 men from the fleet commanded by D'Annebaut.† The enemy held a council of war, in which it was proposed, to fortify and keep possession of the Isle; but this being deemed im-

Y 3

practicable

* Life of Henry the Seventh, by Lord Verulam, p. 48, 62.

† See under Portsmouth, p. 317.

practicable by the majority, they began to plunder and burn the villages. They were, however, suddenly attacked by the Captain, and obliged to fly to their ships with the loss of their General, and a great number of men. Several forts were soon afterwards constructed on different parts of the coast, for the future prevention of descents; and the Islanders were also induced by their Captain to provide a train of artillery at their own expense. He also introduced the use of fire arms; and an armourer was settled in Carisbrooke Castle to make harquebusses, and to keep them in order.*

When the liberties of Britain were menaced by the Invincible Armada, Sir George Carey, afterwards Lord Hunsdon, was Captain or Governor of the Isle of Wight; but his administration, though generally beneficial, was not entirely agreeable to the Islanders, who thought that he assumed more authority than either necessity demanded, or their rights allowed. A statement of grievances was in consequence drawn up, and laid before the Lords of the Council,

* Worsley's Hist. p. 95. "The ancient military force of this Island, with the arrays, arms, beacons, watches, and wards, prescribed in time of danger, may in some measure be collected from those authentic records, and genuine papers, which have escaped the ravages of time. By a return to an inquisition taken at Newport, in the seventh of Edward the Third, it appears, that the landholders were, by their tenures, obliged to defend the Castle of Carisbrooke for forty days at their own charges: and two other inquisitions, taken at Shide Bridge, the eighteenth of Edward the Second, specify the several watches and beacons; and likewise show that every person having 20l. per annum in lands, was obliged to find a horseman completely armed; or more or less so, in proportion to his possessions, according to the statute of Winchester. By another inquisition, taken at Newport in the sixteenth of Edward the Third, it is returned, that the Earls of Devon, Lords of the Isle, sent seventy-six men at arms from the County of Devon for its defence; and that after Edward the First obtained the Island from the Countess Isabella, men at arms were sent for its protection by divers Bishops, Abbots, and other persons who are therein specified. It also mentions that the King sent 100 slingers and bowmen, and the city of London 300 for the

oil, but without producing any result of importance, the threatened danger of the state outweighing the minor considerations of individual security.* During the residence here of Henry, Earl of Southampton, who was appointed Governor and Captain by James the First, this Isle became very flourishing; the hospitality and affable disposition of the Earl attracting numerous visitants.

Early in the Civil Wars, the Parliament obtained possession of the Isle of Wight, by the removal of Jerom, Earl of Portland,

Y 4

who

the same service. The number of men raised by the landholders of the Island, are found in an old roll without date, but which, by the names of some of the persons charged, appears to have been made early in the reign of Edward the Third, &c.

The authority of the Warden seems to have been very extensive, as appears from a commission granted in the twenty-sixth of Edward the Third, to John de Gattesdaen, appointing him to that office: it authorised him to array the men at arms, hoblers,† and bowmen, with all others, as well horse as foot; to levy new forces, if those already arrayed were found insufficient; to provide them with weapons, and to marshal them. He was empowered to take men, who were to be paid by the King, from the County of Southampton, as well as from the Island; and that not only within, but also without the liberties. He was likewise to summon all absentees, who were bound by their tenures to defend Carisbrooke Castle, or the Isle; to order them to return with their families within a limited time, under penalty of forfeiting their lands and tenements, goods and chattels, to the King's use; and in case of non-compliance, the said men to supply their places." *Ibid.* p. 35, 36.

* The great power which the Captains of the Isle of Wight had about this period, may be instanced, by the curious anecdote respecting attorneys, quoted by Sir Richard Worsley from the papers of Sir John Oglander, a descendant from one of the most ancient families in this Island, and who lived at the beginning of the seventeenth century. "I have heard," observes the Knight, "and partly know it to be true, that not only heretofore there was no lawyer nor attorney in owre Island; but in Sir George Carey's time, an attorney coming in to settle in the Island, was by his command, with a pound of candles hanging att his breech
lighted,

† Hoblers were soldiers lightly armed, and mounted on small horses, or hobbies.

who was attached to the cause of the ill-fated Charles; and whose "extraordinary vivacity," observes Clarendon, "crossed their expectations."* They, indeed, not only removed, but committed him to prison, objecting against him, "all the acts of good fellowship, all the waste of powder, and all the waste of wine, in the drinking of healths, and other acts of jollity, which even he had been at in his government, from the hour of his entering upon it."† The principal inhabitants petitioned Parliament in his favor, and afterwards signed a declaration to support the cause of royalty; but the popular voice was wholly dissentient; and Moses Read, the Mayor of Newport, represented to the Parliament, that the safety of the Isle was endangered, while the Countess of Portland, and Colonel Brett, who had been appointed by the King, were suffered to retain possession of Carisbrooke Castle. "The Parliament, in consequence of Read's representation, directed the Captains of the ships in the river to assist him in any measures he should think necessary for securing the Island. Read accordingly marched the Newport militia, with 400 naval auxiliaries, against the Castle, where Brett had not above twenty men; many well-wishers to him and the Countess being deterred from assisting them by the menaces of the populace, who now threw off all respect for their superiors. Harby, the Curate of Newport, a man under peculiar obligations to the Earl of Portland, distinguished himself in spiriting up the besiegers against his lady and children; assigning for a reason, her being a Papist; and exhorting them, in the canting phraseology

lighted, with bells about his legs, hunted owte of the Island: insomuch that our ancestors lived here so quietly and securely, being neither troubled to London nor Winchester, so they seldom or never went owte of the Island; insomuch as when they went to London, thinking it an East-India voyage, they always made their wills, supposing no trouble like to travaile." In another part of his writings, Sir John remarks, that "peace and *law* hath beggared us all;" but since his time, the legal practitioners have so greatly increased, that many of the inhabitants make little scruple of wishing that Sir G. Carey was alive again.

* Clarendon's Hist. B. VI. p. 531.

† Ibid.

seology of the times, to be valiant, as they were about to fight the battle of the Lord.

“The Castle had not at that time three days provision for its slender garrison; yet the Countess, with the magnanimity of a Roman matron, went to the platform with a match in her hand, vowing she would fire the first cannon herself, and defend the Castle to the utmost extremity, unless honorable terms were granted. After some negociations, articles of capitulation were agreed on, and the Castle surrendered: these were, that Colonel Brett, the gentlemen with him, and their servants, who composed the garrison, should be allowed the freedom of the Island: but were restricted from going to Portsmouth, which was then held for the King by Goring. The Countess was to retain her lodgings in the Castle, until the contrary should be directed by Parliament. An order arrived soon afterwards, prescribing her removal from the Isle within two days after notice given her; and she was then indebted to the humanity of the seamen for the vessel which conveyed her and her family”* to the coast of Hampshire.

The other forts in this Isle were also seized; and on the arrival of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, whom the Parliament had appointed Governor, he was respectfully received by the inhabitants, who tendered him their best services. This decisive step in favor of the prevailing powers, happily prevented the occurrence of those scenes of bloodshed which speedily desolated the other parts of the kingdom. Indeed, the security which was here enjoyed, induced many families to become residents; and the rent of land increased about twenty-five per cent. in consequence, but fell again soon after the Restoration.

The flight of Charles the First from Hampton Court, and the subsequent events of his melancholy life, have a memorable connection with this Isle; for hither the fallen Monarch was conducted after his unconditional surrender to Colonel Robert Hammond, at Titchfield House. Hammond was then Governor here; and Charles presuming on his relationship to Dr. Henry Hammond,
his

* Worsley's Hist. p. 115, 116.

his own Chaplain,* thought that he should be safe under the Colonel's protection, till he had an opportunity to make proper terms of accommodation with his enemies. His expectations were, however, deceived; for Hammond had yet a closer connection with the adverse party than with the King's Chaplain; as, by the interest of Cromwell, he had married the daughter of the famous Hampden, and been promoted to the government of the Isle of Wight. For some time, however, he treated his Royal Master with every attention, lodging him in Carisbrooke Castle, not as a prisoner, but as a guest, and suffered him to ride out for recreation, when and wherever he pleased. This conduct was not agreeable to the designs of the ruling powers; and Hammond was ordered not to permit the attendance on the King, of any of the persons who had served him at Oxford; and also to prevent the King's Chaplains from the future exercise of their respective functions. The day succeeding the dismissal of the King's servants, rendered his own situation less equivocal; he was deprived of the liberty of ranging about the country, and confined within the walls of the Castle; but some degree of personal freedom was still permitted him by Hammond. Even this, however, was afterwards abridged, through the injudicious attempts made to contrive his rescue; and the King for a time suffered the vigor of his mind to bend to the pressure of his fate, and gave way to emotions of despondency.

At length, in the year 1648, the House of Commons determined to revive their negotiations with the captive Monarch: a new treaty was proposed, and the town of Newport was appointed as the place of deliberation. Here the King was to enjoy the same state of freedom as when last at Hampton Court; and to be attended by servants of his own appointment; after giving his Royal word not to leave the Isle during the treaty, nor for twenty days after, without the advice of both Houses of Parliament. The sway of the Parliament was now, however, more nominal than real; and, after negotiations had been opened, and continued for upwards of

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* Colonel Hammond was the Chaplain's nephew.

two months, the army, with Fairfax at their head, determined to seize the King, notwithstanding the pledge that had been given by the House of Commons. Colonel Ewes was dispatched to the Isle of Wight for this purpose; and Hammond, from whom some opposition was probably expected, was ordered in the mean time to attend at head-quarters.

On the evening of the twenty-ninth of November, the King received intimation, through a person in disguise, that the army meant to seize on him that night. Somewhat alarmed, though doubtful of the truth, he immediately required the attendance of the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Lindsay, and Colonel Cooke, to whom he communicated the information he had received. The Colonel was then sent to make inquiry of Major Rolfe, whom Hammond had left as Deputy Governor, whether any design of that nature was entertained. Rolfe denied all knowledge of such an intent; saying, "You may assure the King from me, that he may rest quietly this night; for on my life he shall have no disturbance this night." The Colonel remarking that he laid great emphasis on the words *this night*, urged him to declare whether there was any intention of seizing the King at all. After some pause, he answered, that "It was impossible for him to know the purposes of the army at so great a distance, but that as yet, he had received no such orders." After some further conversation on the same subject, the Colonel returned to inform the King; and was again sent back to inquire into the truth of a report which Charles had just heard, of a great number of troops having landed on the Island that evening.

During the short interval of the Colonel's second absence, the King was informed, that 2000 foot soldiers were drawn up round Carisbrooke Castle. At this he seemed greatly agitated; exclaiming, "Surely there must be some very extraordinary business in hand, that can cause such a body of men to be so secretly landed, and in so bitter a night as this, exposed to the extremity of the weather;" the wind then blowing very high, and the rain falling very fast. Expressing, also, an anxious desire for further information, Colonel Cooke again offered his services; and the night being extremely

tremely dark, with great difficulty found his way to the Castle; and having rode round it without meeting any troops, he took shelter under the gateway, to cover himself from the violence of the rain. Here he endeavored to obtain information from the soldiers, but without success; when recollecting that a Captain Bowreman, with whom he was well acquainted, was in the garrison, he desired to speak with him. After some time, he was invited in, and was surprised by the sight of above a dozen officers of the army, most of whom he knew. After mutual salutations, he desired to speak with the Governor in private; but was plainly told by Captain Bowreman, "That he was no better than a prisoner in his own garrison, being threatened with immediate death, if he so much as whispered to any of his servants." Some other circumstances increased the Colonel's suspicion that the seizure of the King was actually intended, and he again departed for Newport.

On his arrival, he found that guards had been placed round the King's lodgings, and even at every avenue, not excepting the windows, and the chamber-door; so that the King was greatly incommoded by the smoke of their matches. The centinels, however, whose matches proved most offensive, were removed on application to Major Rolfe, and the Captain of the guard. The former accounted for the increased number of troops round the King, by observing, that the two companies had been drawn out so late, that quarters could not be provided for them that night; and he had therefore thought of the expedient of having the guards doubled.

Such a combination of events left little doubt on the mind of Charles, of the intention of his foes; and he was strongly urged to attempt his escape while it was yet practicable, both by the Duke of Richmond, and the Earl of Lindsay: and the former, to show the possibility of the measure, passed twice through all the guards, disguised in a cloak, and accompanied by Colonel Cooke. The King, however, strongly objected; but on the Lords resuming their persuasions, suddenly commanded the Colonel to give him his advice, which the latter immediately suggested in these words: "Suppose I should not only tell your Majesty, that the
army

army mean suddenly to seize upon your person, but, by concurring circumstances, should fully convince you of it: supposing also, that, beside the pass-word, I have horses ready at hand, a vessel attending, and hourly expecting me at Cowes, myself both ready and desirous of attending your Majesty, and the darkness of the night, as it were, suited to the purpose, so that I can foresee no visible difficulty in the thing: the only remaining question is, what will your Majesty resolve to do?" After a short pause, the King returned this positive answer: "They have promised me, and I have promised them: I will not break first."

This reply left very few hopes of shaking the King's determination; but the Earl of Lindsay and the Colonel still continued to press him to escape: he at length ordered them to retire to rest, and went himself to bed, the Duke of Richmond remaining in waiting. About day-break, the King heard a great knocking at his outer door; and sending the Duke to learn the cause, was informed, that several officers from the army were desirous of speaking with him. He immediately gave orders for their admission; when rushing into the bed-chamber before the King could rise from his bed, they abruptly told him, they had orders for his removal. He inquired, "Whither?" and was answered, "To the Castle." "*The Castle,*" said the King, on receiving a similar answer to a second question, "is no Castle;" but adding, that he was well enough prepared for any Castle; they at length named Hurst Castle. "Indeed," said the Sovereign, "you could not well have named a worse." Thus was the King's confidence betrayed; and the short-lived freedom which he had enjoyed at Newport, proved the immediate prelude to captivity and death.

The Duke of Richmond, observing the anxiety of the officers for the immediate removal of the King, ordered his breakfast to be hastened; yet, before he was well ready, the horses arrived; and Charles was hurried away. The Duke accompanied him for about two miles; but was then told, that he 'must go no further!' on which, he took a sad farewell of the King, and returned to the lodgings of the Earl of Lindsay and Colonel Cooke, who were now first informed of the King's removal. They then all left the Island,
1- accompanied

accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Southampton, and landing near Titchfield, the seat of the Earl, proceeded to his house, where, on the following morning, they drew up a narrative of the events in which they had been so lately engaged; and the original manuscript was afterwards deposited in the British Museum.* Charles was beheaded in about seven weeks after the occurrence of the events here related.

No transaction of distinguished historical importance has since been recorded in the annals of this Isle. Its defence from foreign invasion is now intrusted to a proper distribution of the regular force, to its militia, and to its numerous volunteers: the latter alone amount to 3500; several hundred of whom are sea fencibles. The present Governor is Lord Bolton, whose annual salary is 500*l.* besides the rents of the Isle, which he enjoys by his patent.

The form of the Isle of Wight is that of an irregular lozenge: from the eastern to the western angle it measures nearly twenty-three miles, and from the northern to the southern, about thirteen; its superficies is supposed to include 105,000 acres. Through the middle of it, in the longest direction, extends a range of high hills, affording excellent pasturage for sheep, and commanding views over every part of the Isle, with the Ocean on the south side, and on the north, the beautiful coasts of Hampshire. The face of the country is very diversified; hill and dale, the swelling promontory and the lowly glen, appear in quick succession to animate, and give interest to the prospects. The land round the coast is, in some parts, very high, particularly on the south, or *back of the Island*, as it is commonly termed; here the cliffs are very steep, and vast fragments of rock, which the waves have undermined, lie scattered along the shore: on the northern side, the ground slopes to the water in easy declivities, excepting towards the *Needles*, or western point, where the rocks are bare, broken, and precipitous.

The height of the cliffs, of which the *Needles* form the extreme point, is, in some places, 600 feet above the level of the sea, and
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* From this manuscript, as quoted by Sir Richard Worsley, the above particulars were derived.

when viewed from the distance of about a quarter of a mile, have a very sublime and stupendous effect. "These cliffs are frequented by immense numbers of marine birds; as puffins, razor-bills, will-cocks, gulls, cormorants, Cornish-choughs, daws, starlings, and wild pigeons; some of which come, at stated times, to lay their eggs and breed, while others remain there all the year. The cliffs are in some places perpendicular; in others, they project and hang over, in a tremendous manner: the several strata form many shelves; these serve as lodgements for the birds, where they sit in thick rows, and discover themselves by their motions and flight, though not individually visible. Here are many caverns and deep chasms that seem to enter a great way into the rocks; and in many places, the issuing of springs forms small cascades of rippling water down to the sea. The country people take the birds that harbour in these rocks, by the perilous experiment of descending by ropes fixed to iron crows, driven into the ground: thus suspended, they with sticks beat down the birds as they fly out of their holes. A dozen birds generally yield one pound weight of soft feathers, for which the merchants give eightpence; the carcasses are bought by the fishermen, at sixpence per dozen, for the purpose of baiting their crab-pots."* The rocks called the Needles, obtained their name from a lofty pointed one, resembling a needle in shape, which had been disjointed, with the others, from the main land, by the force of the waves: this was 120 feet high above low-water mark; but nearly forty years ago, it fell, and totally disappeared, its base having been undermined by the sea.

All the higher parts of the Isle are composed of an immense mass of *Calcareous* matter, of a chalky nature, incumbent on *schistus*, which runs under the whole Isle, and appears, at low-water mark, on the coast near Mottiston: this becomes so indurated by exposure to the air, as to make very good whetstones. The lime-stone is burnt for manure; and in the pits where it is dug for that purpose, are found numerous echini, shark's teeth, and ammoniæ. These fossils are particularly abundant in the
range

* Worsley's Hist. p. 273.

range of cliffs which forms the southern shore; together with bivalve and turbinated shells of various descriptions: the cornua ammonis are of all sizes, from one inch, to a foot and a half in diameter. A stratum of *Coal* discovers itself at the foot of Bimbridge Cliff, and runs through the southern part of the Isle, appearing again at Warden Ledge, in Freshwater parish. On the north side of this stratum lies a vein of white *Sand*, and another of *Fuller's Earth*; and on the south side is another of red *Ochre*. The coal is reported to be of good quality: the upper part of the stratum is about three feet wide: it dips to the northward. A shaft was sunk by the late Sir Robert Worsley at Bimbridge, to ascertain its depth; but the vein was there so thin, that it was judged insufficient to defray the expense; and the undertaking was abandoned.

Free-stones, of several descriptions are found here; but none of superior quality; though that obtained in the quarries near Quarr Abbey, was some ages ago in much request; but the superior nature of the Portland stone has long destroyed its reputation. Red and yellow *Ochres* are particularly observable in Allum Bay, to the north of the Needles, where their mingled strata variegated the cliffs: in this Bay, native *Allum* is found in considerable quantities. Here also, and at Freshwater, are immense beds of micaceous or silvery *Sand*, great quantities of which are annually shipped off for the glass and china manufactories of London, Bristol, and Worcester. Small masses of native sulphur are frequently picked up on different parts of the shore, as well as *Copperas Stones*: the latter are so extremely abundant on the south coast, that several small vessels are employed in freighting them to London, for the purpose of extracting the copperas. *Argilla apyra*, or *pipe-clay*, is likewise very plentiful in different parts of the Isle.

The *Soils* are very various, but the prevailing kind is a strong, loamy earth, well-adapted for agricultural purposes, and extremely fertile. The quantity of grain annually raised here, is computed to amount to seven or eight times the quantity necessary for all the inhabitants. The farms vary in size; their general rental being from 100l. to 400l. per annum, with a few at 500l. The average rent per acre is about seventeen shillings. The sorts of grain chiefly cultivated,

cultivated, are wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas: turnips, clover, trefoil, vetches, rye-grass, and potatoes, are also grown here. The rotation of crops varies according to the qualities of the soil: in the eastern and central parts, the course is wheat, barley, clover, and wheat; but on the stiff clays, the latter is only sown once in four years: in the southern part, the rotation is wheat, fallow and turnips, barley, and clover; in the western part, turnips, barley, clover, rye-grass, and wheat. The medium produce of wheat, throughout the whole Isle, is about twenty-one bushels per acre; the medium produce of barley and oats is about thirty bushels per acre; and of beans and pease, about twenty-eight bushels: potatoes are very productive, though not greatly in esteem; and turnips also yield a great increase. The meadow lands are extremely rich, and produce from one to three tons of fine hay per acre. The grain is in general sown broad-cast; but the drill-system has been introduced of late years, and found to answer exceedingly well in the light and sandy soils. The manures are, lime, marl, and the produce of the farm-yard: wheat is generally sown in October, and cut in August. The elevated tracts are mostly appropriated to pasturing sheep; the number annually shorn is about 40,000; the wool is extremely fine, and in much repute: the breed in general use is the Dorsetshire: about 5000 lambs are sold annually.

The *Cows* are principally of the Devonshire and the Alderney breed, though blended with other kinds: the butter is very good; but the cheese, which is made of the skim-milk, bears the appropriate name of *Isle of Wight Rock*: the calves are remarkably fine. The *Horses* are in general large; and as the farmers value themselves on the strength and beauty of their teams, great pains are taken to improve them. The breed of *Hogs* is somewhat peculiar; they are large and tall, and make excellent bacon.

The *Climate* is extremely salubrious, and highly favorable to vegetation; its genial qualities, and near approximation in mildness to more southern regions, may be instanced by the profusion of genial myrtles, and by the flourishing state of a vine-plantation in the grounds of Sir R. Worsley, at Appuldurcombe. The central parts

of the Isle are subject to frequent rains; the high range of hills proving a constant source of attraction to the vapours, and in the winter months, involving all beneath them in gloom and humidity. The general fertility, however, is so little affected, and the vegetation is so abundant, that this Island has often been styled the *Garden of England*; an appellation, perhaps, that is partly suggested to the mind by the innumerable plants and flowers which grow every where in wild luxuriance: among them are the *ophrys apifera*, or bee-orchis; the *digitalis*, or fox-glove; and the *crithmum maritimum*, or rock-samphire.

The contiguity of the Portsmouth, and other yards for ship-building, has operated to deprive the Isle of Wight of much of its timber; and even Parkhurst, or Carisbrooke Forest, which includes about 3000 acres of good land, is almost destitute of trees of any value. The woods of Swainston are of considerable extent; and those of Wooten and Quarr, cover a superficies of nearly 1100 acres: the oak and the elm are the most flourishing. Game is very plentiful, though not so abundant as formerly, owing to the greater havock made of late years by the numerous soldiers stationed here. Foxes, badgers, and polecats, are unknown in the Island; though vipers exist in great plenty, and are caught in large numbers for medicinal purposes. Domestic fowls, and poultry, are bred here in considerable quantities, for the supply of the outward-bound shipping.

Great variety of *Fish* is found on the coast, and in considerable abundance: those of the crustaceous kind are particularly numerous on the southern shores. The lobster and crab are of uncommon size, and extremely fine: some of the former are upwards of six pounds in weight; the latter is so abundant on a particular part of the coast, that a neighbouring village has obtained the name of *Crab-Niton* from this circumstance. The Isle of Wight cockles are very celebrated; the sand-eel is also very plentiful: the cuttle-fish is occasionally taken.

The trade of the Isle of Wight is flourishing; the harbour of Cowes is particularly convenient for shipping and unshipping merchandize. The chief imports are coals, timber, deals, iron, wine,

hemp, and fruits; the principal exports are wheat, flour, barley, malt, and salt. The chief manufactures are those of starch, hair-powder, and salt; and latterly, the making of woollens, sacks &c. has been carried to some extent in the House of Industry, near Newport.

Several *Chalybeate* springs have been found in different parts of the Island; one of them, at Black Gang, under Chale Cliff, is very strong: about half a mile from this, at Pitland, is a spring, impregnated with *sulphur*; and at Shanklin, is a spring whose waters are slightly tintured with *allum*. The springs of clear water are very numerous, and, in general, extremely pure and transparent, from the natural percolation which they undergo through the lime-stone strata.

The principal RIVERS are the *Medina*, the *Yar*, and the *Wooten*. The *Medina*, anciently called the *Mede*, rises near the bottom of St. Catherine's Down, and flowing directly northward, divides the Island into two equal parts: gradually widening in its course, it passes to the east of Newport, and in Cowes Harbour, unites its waters with the ocean. Numerous smaller streams also exist; and various creeks and bays run up from the sea. The two hundreds into which the Island is divided by the *Medina*, are named East and West *Medina*, from their respective situations to that river: they contain thirty parishes; and the three market and borough-towns of Newport, Newtown, and Yarmouth, each of which returns two members to Parliament. The population of the Isle of Wight, as ascertained under the Act of 1801, was 22,097; the number of houses 3687.

NEWPORT

Is situated nearly in the centre, and may be considered as the Metropolis of the Island. Its recent origin, however, has prevented the accumulation of antiquities, and it presents but few objects of curiosity to engage the attention of the traveller. The more favorable situation of this place for commercial purposes, than that of Carisbrooke, appears to have occasioned the decay of the latter town, and

to have been the rise of this. Its first charter of immunities was granted by Richard de Redvers, second Earl of Devon, in the reign of Henry the Second; but contains little more than a grant of liberties in general terms. In a second and more important charter, granted by the Countess Isabella de Fortibus, this town is styled the *New Borough of Medina*; and its Burgesses are invested with all the market tolls, and "all other customs whence free Burgesses can have liberty," in as full and ample a manner as the Countess herself enjoyed them: various other privileges accompanied the grant; and for all the immunities and freedoms thus bestowed, a yearly rent of eighteen marks of silver was reserved to the Countess, and two marks annually to the Prior and Monks of Carisbrooke, to whom the tolls, &c. of the market of that town belonged. This charter was confirmed by Edward the Third, and various succeeding Sovereigns, to the time of Queen Elizabeth, whose immediate predecessor, Edward the Sixth, confirmed also to the Burgesses, the petty customs within all ports and creeks of the Island, which had been bestowed on them by Henry the Seventh.

The first charter of incorporation was granted to Newport by James the First; but that under which it is now governed, was given by Charles the Second, in his thirteenth year: by it the government is vested in a Mayor, Recorder, ten Aldermen, and twelve Burgesses; the latter of whom are to be chosen from among the principal inhabitants, and the Aldermen from these. The earliest return to Parliament was in the twenty-third of Edward the First; but no subsequent return was made till the twenty-seventh of Elizabeth, when the interest of Sir George Carey, Captain of the Isle, occasioned a restitution of the privilege; the most keen gratitude of the Burgesses was evinced by the immediate surrender to Sir George, of the right to nominate one of the members during "his natural life:" the right of election is vested in the Corporation.

The situation of Newport is high and pleasant: on the east side it is watered by the chief branch of the Medina River, and on the west, by a small stream which rises at Rayner's Grove, about three miles

miles distant, and falls into the former at the Quay, where the Medina becomes navigable. The houses are disposed into five parallel streets, running east and west, and crossed by three others at right angles. The buildings are mostly of brick; and some of them are handsome. In the original plan of the town, it was intended that there should have been three large squares, at the intersections of the streets, to serve as markets for cattle, corn, and poultry; but the uniformity of this design has been destroyed by various encroachments.

The *Church* was originally (and still is) a Chapel of Ease to Carisbrooke, but the inhabitants appear to have gradually obtained a power of choosing their own ministers; and the parish seems to have been considered as independent, for many years previous to 1794, when the Vicar of Carisbrooke determined to resume his dormant rights, and on a vacancy, nominated a minister himself, in opposition to the wish of the inhabitants. This fabric stands in the centre of one of the squares of the town: it is spacious, but low, and consists of three aisles, of equal length, separated from each other by pointed arches; at the west end is an embattled tower. Its patron Saint is St. Thomas á Becket, from which circumstance it is supposed to have been founded about the time of Henry the Second; but the architecture is of different periods. The various mechanical instruments, that are sculptured on the south wall, as hammers, shears, &c. render the opinion probable, that part of the expenses of building was defrayed by a subscription of the mechanics of the town. The pulpit is of wainscot, ornamented with figures curiously carved on the pannels, in alto-relievo, representing the Cardinal Virtues and the Liberal Arts: under the sounding-board is the date 1636. The principal monument displays a recumbent statue of SIR EDWARD HORSEY, Knt. who was Captain of this Island in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Edward is represented in armour, with short hair, and a quilled ruff, lying on a mat, beneath an ornamented niche. Above is a Latin epitaph, expressive of his courage and virtues, with his arms quartered, and the date of his decease, March 29, 1582. This gentleman was descended from an ancient family, settled at

Melcombe-Horsey, in Dorsetshire, and acquired renown for his skill and valor in clearing the Channel from the enemy's ships. Though a far better man, he was particularly favored by the worthless Earl of Leicester, with the management of whose clandestine marriage with Lady Douglas Sheffield, he had been entrusted, and kept the secret so faithfully, 'that the crafty Earl was enabled to deny it, when under the temptation of a fresh amour.' By the interest of Leicester, he was appointed to the Captainship of this Isle; he was also employed by Queen Elizabeth as Ambassador to Don John of Austria in 1576-77.* Among the other persons buried in this fabric, was the Princess Elisabeth, second daughter of Charles the First, who died a prisoner in Carisbrooke Castle at the age of fifteen. The leaden coffin including her remains, was discovered in a vault under the chancel, in October, 1793: on it is the following inscription in three lines: "ELISABETH 2^d DAUGHTER OF Y^e LATE KING CHARLES, DECED SEPT. 8. MDCL." Sandford, in his Genealogical History, affirms, that the Princess died of a broken heart. A burial-ground was first appropriated to this Church, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in consequence of a plague, in which the mortality was so great, that the Church-yard of Carisbrooke was not sufficiently capacious for the interment of the dead. The Roman Catholics, the Methodists, the Arminians, the Baptists, and the Quakers, have each a Meeting-House in this town.

In the *Town-Hall*, which is situated over the largest of the market-places, besides the Meetings of the Corporation, &c. is held the *Knighten Court*, or *Curia Militum*, under the precedency of the Governor's Steward, or his deputy. This court was instituted in the feudal times; and, as supposed, by William Fitz-Osborne, to whom the Island was granted by the Conqueror. The original judges were such as held a Knight's fee, or part of a fee, *in capite*, from the proprietor of the Lordship: the present judges are freeholders, holding of Carisbrooke Castle: these are empowered to decide without the intervention of a jury, and generally sit in rotation, or

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* The very great abundance of game with which this Island was stored, tradition refers to Sir Edward, who is reported to have given a lamb for every hare that was brought to him from the neighbouring counties.

as convenience dictates, three or more at a time. The court is held every Monday three weeks, except that happens to be a holiday, when the meeting is postponed for three weeks longer: it has jurisdiction over every part of the Island, but the Borough of Newport: "it holds pleas of all actions of debt and trespass under the value of forty shillings; and upon replevins granted by the Steward, or his Deputy: the proceedings are of the same nature as those in our Courts of Equity, and are carried on by attornies admitted by the court. The actions for debt are tried by proof of plaintiff or defendant; or the defendant's wager of law with two hands, if he prays it; and actions of trespass are determined by proof only."* The seal of this court represents a castle with battlements, with the inscription SIGIL: CVRIÆ: MIL: IN: INSVLA: VECTIS: †. Some endeavors were made by the inhabitants of the Island, in the reign of Charles the First, to render the powers of this Court more analogous to those wherein all causes are determined by jury; but without effect.

The markets are plentifully supplied with provision, but especially with poultry and butter; yet the latter is very dear: fish are extremely scarce, and are mostly brought from Southampton. Vast quantities of grain were formerly exposed for sale here, to the amount of 150 or 200 waggon-loads at a time; but the illegal practice of selling corn by sample, which has lately obtained, has so greatly reduced the market in this article, that not more than five or six waggons have been exposed at once for these five years. At the Michaelmas markets, Newport is a scene of great bustle; every street is crowded, and every public-house is thronged: gaiety has universal sway; and singing and dancing fill up the hours.

The education of youth has been attended to by the establishment of several Schools. A *Free Grammar School*, for a limited number of boys, was erected by subscription in the year 1619, and afterwards endowed with lands for the support of a master; but it has now almost dwindled to a sinecure: the school-room is fifty

* Worsley's Hist. p. 82.

feet long, and has become memorable from having been the place where the negotiations between Charles the First and the Parliamentary Commissioners were discussed. Another *School*, for clothing and instructing girls, has been instituted here, and is partly supported by endowments, and partly by subscription. Two *Sunday Schools* have also been established under the patronage of the principal inhabitants, and bid fair to become of the most essential utility.

The number of houses in Newport is about 700: that of inhabitants, as returned under the Act of 1801, was 3585; this, however, is subject to great variation, from local circumstances. Many of the working classes are employed in the manufacture of starch and hair-powder; and in the making of cracknells, biscuit, &c. for the use of the shipping. The amusements of the upper ranks are sought in a neat *Theatre*; and in *Assemblies*, held at stated times, in two elegant rooms that have been erected for the purpose.

For the promotion of science, a *Philosophical Society* has been lately established here. The streets were regularly paved a few years ago; and, in digging stone in the beast market for this purpose, a large reservoir was discovered, which appeared to have been formed for supplying the town with water for domestic use; an article in which it is extremely deficient, from its elevated situation: the chief part of what is now used by the inhabitants, is brought in water-carts from Carisbrooke, and retailed from house to house. The charges, made on strangers at the principal inns, are exorbitant: indeed, this is generally the case throughout the Island, the inn-keepers appearing to consider all visitors as objects of prey.* On the streams in the vicinity of the town, are several corn-mills.

DR.

* Those who are disposed to survey the whole Island, commonly fix their head-quarters at Newport, from the certainty of procuring lodging. In this case, three principal routes are laid down, denominated, from their respective courses, the western, the north-eastern, and the south-eastern:

DR. THOMAS JAMES, a learned divine and antiquary, appears from Wood,* to have been born in this town about the year 1571. The tuition of his early years was obtained at Wyckham's College, Winchester, from which he was removed to New College, Oxford; and became so celebrated for his erudition, that he was esteemed 'a living library.' He was the first Keeper on the Bodleian foundation; in which office he assisted the great Camden in collecting materials for his *Britannia*. He was afterwards made Sub-Dean of Wells, and had other promotions. His knowledge in the Manuscript Fathers was very great; and Wood affirms, that "he was the most industrious and indefatigable writer against popery, that had been educated at Oxford since the Reformation." He died in August, 1629.

About one mile north from Newport, is that admirable institution, the HOUSE OF INDUSTRY; which originated in the year 1770, from a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the Isle of Wight, assembled for the purpose of discussing the best mode of providing relief for the poor. In this assembly, it was proposed to consolidate the rates of the different parishes; and to erect a building for the general reception of the poor, sufficiently large for all the purposes of residence, education, and employment. Application was accordingly made to Parliament for the necessary powers; and the design being approved, His Majesty was empowered to grant a lease of eighty acres of land in his forest of Parkhurst, for the term of 999 years, at the reserved annual rent of 8l. 17s. 9d. and renewable at a fine certain.

On this ground the *House of Industry* was immediately begun: it consists of several ranges of building, of sufficient magnitude for
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* *Athenæ Oxon.* p. 537.

south-eastern: these, with a few shorter trips, include all the scenery and objects worthy of inspection in the Island, and may be travelled over in five or six days; though the roads are very indifferent, and in some parts absolutely impassable for carriages, except in the finest weather: this probably arises from the roads being repaired by statute law, as there are no turnpikes throughout the Island.

the reception and employment of nearly 700 people; connected with courts, a garden, &c. The principal building is 300 feet in length, and twenty-seven in breadth; with windows on both sides, to promote the free circulation of air; in this is a Dining-Hall, 118 feet long, a Store-Room, a Committee-Room, and many other apartments. About 200 feet from the west end, another building ranges southward, to an extent of 170 feet: in this, on the ground floor, are the School-Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Bake-House, &c. and above them are various apartments, as lying-in rooms, sick wards, and twenty separate chambers, for married poor. At the end of this, and parallel with the main building, is another range, containing extensive workshops for the mechanics and manufacturers. Besides these, and within the inclosure, is a Chapel, and various offices; together with a Pest-house for those afflicted with contagious disorders; and a small building, erected a few years ago, for the admission of persons under inoculation.

The regulations and bye-laws by which this important establishment is governed, are excellently calculated to further the advancement of morals and of industry: even in an economical point of view, their effects have already greatly operated to the advantage of the community; the poor-rates having been decreased upwards of one half since the institution was planned. The sum borrowed for erecting the buildings, was 20,000*l.* chargeable with an interest of 800*l.* of this, upwards of one-third has been liquidated; and as the profits arising from the manufactures carried on here, has, of late years, amounted to nearly 200*l.* annually, there is every reason to imagine, that the whole will be discharged before the lapse of any great portion of time. The principal branches of manufacture are sacks for corn and flour; clothing, as kerseys, stockings, &c. dowlas sheeting; mops, shoes, and various other articles. The number of persons generally in the house at one period, varies from 500 to 550. Relief is also afforded to the families of the indigent, who, from local circumstances, do not require removal from their own abodes. Still further to promote the well-doing of society, an allowance of three guineas has been lately voted to “ every servant in husbandry, day-laborer, and journeyman-mechanic,

chanic, on low wages, who shall marry the daughter of a cottager, or laborer." As this bounty is given with reference to the prevention of illicit intercourse, those who are known to have had any child born out of wedlock, are excluded from receiving it.

The entire management of this concern is vested in a Corporation, styled "The Guardians of the Poor within the Isle of Wight;" to which all persons are eligible who possess, in their own right, or in that of their wives, lands or property within the Island rated to the poor's-rate, at the yearly value of 50*l.* or are heirs apparent of such property, to the annual value of 100*l.* or are occupiers to the same amount; together with all rectors or vicars within the Island. From these twenty-four Directors, and thirty-six acting Guardians, are appointed, twelve of whom are removed on the last Thursday in June, annually, and their places filled by as many others who are eligible. These are divided and sub-divided into quarterly, monthly, and weekly committees; by which means the institution has the benefit of a regular superintendence of the best kind; that of the judicious, and the disinterested. The necessary officers for the internal government of the house, are appointed by the Directors and Guardians, and include a Governor, a Chaplain, a Steward, a Schoolmaster, a Matron, two Surgeons, a Secretary, &c. These have regular salaries; the only officer who fills a responsible situation without salary, is the Treasurer. That part of the eighty acres of land granted by His Majesty, which is not occupied by the buildings and garden, has been divided into fields, and cultivated with every appearance of success.

At a short distance south-west from the House of Industry, are the PARKHURST BARRACKS, and MILITARY HOSPITAL, which have been erected since the year 1778, and contain every requisite accommodation for upwards of 3000 soldiers. The Barracks consist of various ranges of building, running parallel with each other; and the principal of them measuring 163 feet and a half in length. The Hospital is formed by a centre, and two wings, with proper offices, as fumigating rooms, baths, &c. Great alterations have been lately made in this building, and many improvements have been effected. The whole inclosure occupies an

an extent of twenty acres; of which about two acres are appropriated to the Hospital. The water for domestic purposes is procured from four wells, of different depths, from 262 to 286 feet. The streets between the ranges of Barracks are forty feet wide. The magnitude and regularity of these buildings give them an important and dignified appearance.

The Forest of PARKHURST, within the limits of which the Barracks and Hospital are situated, occurs in the Domesday Book, under the appellation of *Parco Regis*, or the King's Park. It was afterwards denominated the King's Forest: and in an account of rents and disbursements of the twenty-third of Henry the Seventh, is a charge for salaries paid to a ranger and two under keepers. Courts of Swanimote were also held here, as appears by an ancient warrant from the Duke of Suffolk.

About one mile south-west from Newport is CARISBROOKE CASTLE, the most ancient and important fortress in the Island. It stands on a high and commanding situation, on a conical eminence, rising above the village of Carisbrooke, and occupying about twenty acres of ground. When it was originally founded is uncertain: some authors have attributed it to the Britons; and Llyud says, there was a city here called *Caer-broc*; words signifying the city or town of yew-trees. Others suppose its origin to be Roman; among whom is Dr. Stukeley, who assigns its erection to his favorite Emperor, Carausius: and Warner mentions six Roman coins, as being in his own possession, of the Emperors Tiberius Cæsar, Germanicus, Vespasian, Maximianus, &c.* that were dug up in a field to the north of the Castle about sixty years ago.

The earliest historical notice, however, of Carisbrooke, occurs in the Saxon annals, under the year 530, when the Castle was besieged and taken by Cerdic, who, as already mentioned,† bestow'd the government of the Isle on his nephews, Stuff and Withgar; the latter of whom is said to have rebuilt the Castle: this affirmation is supposed to be corroborated by the appearance of part of the wall of the base-court, which bears evident traces of a different origin to the other parts of the fortress. The

* History of the Isle of Wight, &c. Appendix. † See p. 335.

The most important era in the erection of this Castle, at least in its present form, was undoubtedly the time immediately succeeding the Norman Conquest; as we learn from that invaluable record, the Domesday Book, that the manor of Avington, of which it was anciently a part, was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, rated at two hides and a half; but in that of the Conqueror, at only two hides; because the "Castle stands upon one virgate." This is a clear proof that, whatever was the ancient state of this fortress, it must have been greatly enlarged between the decease of King Edward, and the period of the Domesday Survey; but whether by William Fitz-Osborne, the first Lord of the Island, or by Roger de Breteville, his son, may be questioned; though most writers attribute it to the former; yet, as he was slain on the Continent within four years of the Norman Invasion, it seems probable that the completion of the Castle must have been left to his son. Various alterations were made in subsequent reigns; and in the time of Queen Elizabeth the whole of the original works was surrounded by an extensive fortification, faced with stone, encompassed by a deep moat, and defended by five bastions. The additions and repairs that have since been made, chiefly regard the improvement of some of the interior parts, for the purposes of residence.

The walls of the Norman fortress, including the keep, which is probably more ancient, inclose about an acre and a half of ground, approaching in form to a rectangular parallelogram, with the angles rounded: these angles seem to have been rebuilt when the works were enlarged by Elizabeth, as that to the south-east has the date 1601. The keep occupies the summit of an artificial mount, between fifty and sixty feet high, situated near the north-east angle of the walls; this, as well as the walls, was defended by a surrounding foss. The form of the keep is an irregular polygon, about sixty feet broad in its widest part, with walls of great strength and thickness: some of the angles are strengthened by buttresses of hewn stone, evidently more modern than the other parts. A flight of seventy-two steps leads up the mount to the entrance, which was anciently defended by a strong double gate and portcullis. On the left, within the entrance, is a larger apart-

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ment, in which is a well, now partly filled up as dangerous, said to have been 300 feet deep. The upper apartments are wholly destroyed; though a small decayed stair-case yet remains, which led to the platform on the summit of the keep, from the ruined walls of which, is a very extensive and beautiful prospect, including great part of the Island, together with parts of the New Forest, and the Portsdown Hills. On this spot the Royal flag is displayed on days of public rejoicing, or when the Governor resides at the Castle. At the bottom of the mount was a sally-port, which appears to have been defended by a bastion, now destroyed.

The principal of the Norman works occupy the north-western angle of the area; to which, the entrance is on the west side, by a handsome machicolated gate, with grooves for a portcullis, flanked by two round towers: this is supposed to have been built by Lord Widville, in the time of Edward the Fourth, his arms being carved on a stone near the top, with the rose, the badge of the house of York, on each side. This leads to the more ancient entrance; the old gate of which, with its wicket of lattice-work, made of oak, and covered with bars of iron, still remains, and opens into the inner area; on entering which, the first objects that meet the eye on the right, are the ruins of a Guard-House, and the Chapel of St. Nicholas. The latter was built in the year 1738, on the site of a more ancient Chapel, that stood here at the period of the Domesday Survey, and had various lands bestowed for its support by the different proprietors of the Lordship. In this structure the Mayor and High Constables of Newport are annually sworn into office. On the opposite and north side, are the ruins of the buildings occupied by Charles the First during his imprisonment in this Castle: a small room, said to have been his bed-chamber, is still shown. Further on, extending from the north wall, towards the middle of the area, are the Barracks, and Governor's House. These buildings have been the work of very different periods; and so many alterations have been made in them, that the original form of construction is almost obliterated. Among the arms on different parts of the walls, are those of William Fitz-Osborne; Isabella de Fortibus; Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; and Sir George Carey.

The

The Governor's lodgings include several good apartments, with vaulted ceilings; they were improved, and made habitable, about the year 1700, by the then Governor, Lord Cutts; but having been afterwards neglected, were again repaired, and fitted up, by the present Lord Bolton.

At the south-west corner of the area, is a platform for cannon, made in the reign of Elizabeth: and near the centre of the south wall are the remains of a watch-tower. The ruins of another tower, called Montjoy's, though unquestionably part of the Norman fortress, stand at the south-east angle of the area: the walls are in some places eighteen feet thick, and the top may yet be ascended by a flight of decayed steps. On the east side are the remains of two other watch-towers, and some buildings formerly used as store-houses, &c. but now occupied as offices for the Governor's household. Near the centre of the area, under a small building, is a Well, 200 feet deep, supplying a very pure water for the use of the Castle.*

It seems evident that the fortification erected by Queen Elizabeth, must have been raised on the site of some outworks, or entrenchments, that had previously existed; as the space it includes is not more considerable in extent than the Castle itself is recorded to have occupied in the Domesday Book; that is, one virgate, or twenty acres. The entrance of this modern part corresponds with that of the original fortress, it being nearly opposite on the west side. Its form is that of an irregular pentagon, about three-quarters of a mile in circumference; the chief engineer was an Italian, named

* The water is raised by means of a tread-wheel, fifteen feet in diameter, worked by an *Ass*, who was promoted to his present office in the year 1798, on the death of one of his long-eared brethren, that had performed the same service twenty-six years. Another of these animals died in 1771, having patiently executed the duties of his station during the long period of forty-five years. When this well is shown to strangers, a curious experiment is generally made, by letting down a lighted lamp, which, in descending, occasions a strong sound, from the resistance of the air, like a hollow wind; and as the lamp rests upon the surface of the water, the walling of the well may be distinctly seen,

named Gencbella,* who had been employed on the fortifications of Antwerp, to which these are said to bear considerable resemblance. The moat is crossed by a bridge, leading to the gate, which opens into the area; over it is a shield, with the date 1598, and the initials E. R. In the east part of this area, is the Place of Arms, a large open piece of ground, surrounded by a redoubt, or rampart, of considerable height: this was originally set apart for the purpose of training and exercising soldiers. The expense of the works raised in the time of Elizabeth, was partly defrayed by a subscription made by the inhabitants: those who could not afford money, are said to have contributed labor, so that the whole of the outer foss was excavated without any public charge.†

This Castle appears to have been the residence of the Lords of the Island from the very earliest period; and since it became the property of the Crown, it has been the constant seat of the Captains and Governors. Isabella de Fortibus resided here in great state and dignity; and her charter to Newport is dated from this place. Here also the will of Philippa, Duchess of York, who died in the ninth of Henry the Sixth, was opened; in which she styles herself Lady of the Isle of Wight.

The adventitious lustre reflected on this fortress, from its having been the scene of the imprisonment of Charles the First, has already been intimated; and there are yet some further circumstances relating to his confinement here that require detail. Among the books that served for the amusement of his lonesome hours, were Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, Tasso's Jerusalem, and Spencer's Fairie Queen: these, with the Sacred Scriptures, and some works on religious subjects, formed nearly the whole of his library. Stated hours were set apart for devotion and writing; and his *Suspiria Regalia*, the manuscript of which was found among his books, is thought to have been composed during his captivity.

His

* Manuscripts of Sir John Oglander.

† In Sir R. Worsley's Hist. Appendix, No. xviii. is a very interesting and curious paper of all the various items of expense incurred in strengthening the Castle at this period.

His mornings, in the early part of his confinement, were generally employed in walking on the ramparts; and many persons obtained access to him at these times, under pretence of being touched for the King's Evil. The subsequent rigour of his imprisonment may be attributed to the attempts made to effect his rescue.

The second attempt, and which seems to have failed through the King's own inadvertency, is related at length in Herbert's Memoirs: from these it appears, that a correspondence had been secretly commenced with some gentlemen of the Island, and it was determined that Charles should let himself down by a cord from his chamber-window; and again from the top of the ramparts; under which a swift horse, with a guide, were to be placed in readiness, to convey him to a vessel purposely stationed at the sea side. The chief difficulty in the scheme, was the narrow space between the bars; but Charles affirmed that he had tried the passage, and did not doubt but that it was sufficiently large. The preparations were therefore completed; the hour of enterprize was come, the concerted signal was given, and Charles attempted to force himself through the window; but though he found an easy passage for his head, he stuck fast in endeavoring to portrude his neck and shoulders, and for some time he could neither advance nor retreat. His groans were heard by his friends below; but nothing could be done to relieve him; at length, by repeated efforts, he forced himself back, and immediately placed a candle in the window, as an intimation that the design was frustrated.

As this attempt was not discovered at the time, it was again resolved to have recourse to the same means; and files and aquafortis were conveyed to the King from London, for the purpose of removing the impediments that had before obstructed his escape. Some intelligence had, however, been received by Hammond, which occasioned a more strict degree of watchfulness; and Major Rolfe, by pretending to be in the King's interest, obtained the confidence of some of the persons concerned, and of course, was made acquainted with the plan. The night was however fixed; and Charles was getting through the window, when perceiving more persons beneath it than he expected, he drew back, and re-

tired to bed. Soon afterwards the Governor entered the chamber; and Charles found that the scheme had miscarried. The gentlemen who had been concerned, escaped with much difficulty; and Charles himself appears to have been in great danger, as Major Rolfe exhibited a charged pistol, declaring that he had resolved to shoot the King with it as he descended from the window. The seizure of Charles at Newport has been already related: on his way to the sea-side he met Sir E. Worsley, one of the gentlemen who had endeavored to aid his escape, and presented him with his watch, as a token of his remembrance and gratitude.*

The village of CARISBROOKE is pleasantly situated on the banks of a rivulet, at the bottom of the Castle-Hill, but retains few other vestiges of its former consequence, as a market-town, and the capital of the Island, than what are displayed in its *Church*, and even that was originally more extensive than at present. This structure occupies the site of a more ancient edifice, of Saxon origin, and was built by William Fitz-Osborne, and given by him, with several others, to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, of which he was also the founder. It consists of a body and south aisle, with a handsome embattled tower; the north aisle and chancel have long been destroyed. Near the altar is part of a monumental stone, rudely carved, with the figure of the head and upper part of the body of an ecclesiastic, with a book and paschal staff; supposed to represent one of the Priors of Carisbrooke. Against the north wall is a monument of the time of Henry the Seventh, in memory of the Lady of Sir Nicholas Wadham, who was Captain of this Island in that reign: the lady is represented kneeling at a desk, in the attitude of prayer; at the back of the tomb are six small figures, represented as cripples, in allusion to the charity of the deceased: this monument is much mutilated. In the body of the Church is a wooden tablet, in memory of CAPTAIN
WILLIAM

* This watch is still preserved in the family: it is of silver, large and clumsy in its form, but the case neatly ornamented with fillagree. The movements are of very ordinary workmanship, and the spring is wound up with catgut. *Gilpin's Western Observations*, p. 324.

WILLIAM KEELING, who is represented sitting on the deck of a ship, with a crown of glory suspended over him: *Fides* is written on the sail; on the compass, *verbum Dei*; and on the anchor, *Spes*. The inscription below the ship informs us, that he died in 1619, having been Groom of the Chamber to James the First, and General for the Honorable East India Adventurers; it concludes thus:

Fortie and two years in this vessel fraile,
 On the rough Seas of Life, did Keeling sail;
 A merchant fortunate, a Captain bould,
 A courtier gracious, yet, alas, not old.
 Such wealth, experience, honour, and high praise,
 Few winne in twice so manie years or daies.
 But what the world admired he deemed but drosse
 For Christ; without Christ all his gains but losse:
 For him and his dear love, with merrie cheere,
 To the Holy Land, his last course he did steere:
Faith served for sails; the *Sacred Word* for card;
Hope was his anchor; *Glory* his reward:
 And thus with gales of Grace by happy venter,
 Through Straits of Death, Heav'ns Harbor he did enter.

The PRIORY of Carisbrooke, which stood near the Church, had also William Fitz-Osborne for its founder; and was equally appropriated to the Abbey of Lyra; and became a Cell of Benedictines to that foundation. Edward the Third granted it to the Abbey of Mont-grace, in Yorkshire; but Henry the Fourth restored it to the Monks of Lyra. In the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was again seized, with the other Alien Priories, and granted to the Abbey of Sheen, in Surrey, to which it continued annexed till the general Dissolution. Few vestiges of the monastic buildings remain; and those are chiefly confined to the out-houses and barns of what is still called the Priory-Farm: the shell of one of these buildings is 100 feet long, and twenty-five feet broad; the walls are richly mantled with ivy.

GATCOMBE HOUSE, formerly the seat of the younger branches of the Worsley family, but now the residence of A. Campbell,

bell, Esq. is beautifully situated on the declivity of a hill, about two miles southward from Carisbrooke Castle. Some fine timber and coppice wood ornament the grounds; and the scenery derives interest from the contiguity of the river Medina, which flows on the east side. The house is a regular square building of stone, erected by Sir E. Worsley in the year 1750. Near it is *GATCOMBE Church*, in the chancel of which, in a recess of the north wall, is an ancient and curious effigy of a Knight carved in oak, supposed to represent the founder of the Church.

The manor of *GODSHILL* was anciently part of the lands of the Abbey of Lyra, and its Church was one of the six given to that House by William Fitz-Osborne; but after passing through various hands, it has become the property of Sir Richard Worsley by purchase. The Church is an ancient building, in the form of a cross, occupying the summit of an eminence, and commanding some fine prospects. Here are various monuments of the Worsleys, and other families: among them, under a richly sculptured arch, are the recumbent effigies of *SIR JOHN LEIGH*, and *MARY* his Lady, the daughter and heiress of John Hacket, Esq. who died in the reign of Henry the Eighth. On the borders of the Lady's robe are the arms of the Hackets, and on each side of her is a child: above the arch are three angels holding shields. Near this is the monument of *SIR JAMES WORSLEY*, and *ANNE* his wife, daughter of the above: their figures are represented kneeling under an architrave, supported by two Ionic pillars. The next monument commemorates *SIR ROBERT WORSLEY*, who died in 1747; and his brother, *HENRY WORSLEY*, Esq. who was Governor of Barbadoes, and died in March, 1740: their busts are placed on a sarcophagus: the pediment is supported by pillars of marble veined, with the figures of Hope and Fortitude on the sides. Here is also a mural monument to the memory of *CAPTAIN RICHARD WORSLEY*, son of Sir James, who died in May, 1565: on this is a long inscription in Latin, containing various historical particulars of the family.

APPULDURCOMBE, the principal seat of the Worsley family, and now the property and residence of Sir Richard Worsley, Bart.

is about one mile south-east from Godshill. Its name is derived from the British words, *Y pwll y dwr y cwm*; signifying the pool of water in the hollow or recess of a hill. The manor was anciently part of the possessions of the Abbey of Montsbury, in Normandy; and, after passing through several families, became the property of Sir James Worsley, of Worsley Hall, in Lancashire, by marriage with Anne, daughter of Sir John Leigh, of More, in Derbyshire, from whom it has descended to the present owner. The Worsleys trace their descent to Sir Elias de Workesley, who attended Robert, Duke of Normandy, in his expedition to the Holy Land, and died and was interred in the Isle of Rhodes.

A PRIORY was founded here in the Norman times, and was given to the Abbey of Montsbury, by Richard de Redvers, Earl of Devon. Henry the Fourth granted it, during a war with France, to the Nuns without Aldgate, in London, who afterwards obtained a grant of all its lands, including Appuldurcombe, Sandford, and Week, from the above Abbey. The *Old Priory-House*, which appears to have been a venerable building,* was thoroughly repaired in the reign of Elizabeth, and made a family residence; probably by Sir Francis Walsingham, who married the widow of Sir James Worsley, and held these estates in her right. It was taken down in the beginning of the last century by Sir Robert Worsley, who, according to his own phrase, ‘left not one stone standing:’ by him, in the year 1710, the present mansion was begun at a short distance from the old Priory: he died, however, before it was completed; and it remained in a very unfinished state till it came into the possession of Sir R. Worsley, who has made considerable additions, and in several instances, departed from the original design.

The situation of this house is extremely fine: it stands in a spacious park, in the midst of an amphitheatre of hills, commanding various extensive and grand prospects: the slope which forms the back-ground, is ornamented with beeches of great size, interspersed with large and venerable oaks. The mansion itself is built with

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* See the Engraving opposite p. 181, in Sir R. Worsley’s History of the Isle of Wight.

free-stone, and, from its magnitude and situation, assumes an air of considerable grandeur; though the singularity of its construction detracts from its magnificence. It has four fronts, of the Corinthian order; with projecting buildings advancing from each front, and finished with pilasters and pediments of Portland stone: the principal entrance is on the east side.

The interior of this mansion is most superbly decorated with sculptures, paintings, and drawings; most of which were collected by the present owner, in a tour through Italy, Spain, Greece, Egypt, Asia Minor, and Tartary, during the years 1785, 1786, and 1787. The collection was made at a vast expense; Sir Richard having freighted a ship for himself and suite, and engaged some excellent Artists to accompany him. The marbles and paintings are principally arranged in the Entrance Hall, and in the apartments on the same floor: most of the drawings are preserved in port-folios. The Hall, which is fifty-four feet long, and twenty-four broad, is decorated with eight beautiful Ionic columns, of a composition resembling porphyry. Here many of the sculptures are displayed, intermixed with paintings, the judicious arrangement of which exhibits great taste. The most eminent of these valuables will now be described, under their appropriate heads, without regard to the apartments in which they are placed.

Among the MARBLES is a most beautiful group of *Bacchus*, and his mythological favorite *Acratus*, winged as a genius; a *Cupid*, found under the Colonna at Rome, and supposed to be an antique copy of the bronze obtained by a stratagem from *Praxiteles*, by *Lais*; *Asclepias*, the Priestess of *Diana*, with a curious inscription on the plinth, demonstrative of her nature and office; *Hercules Ebrius*, found in Egypt, represented crowned with flowers and ribbons; an *Egyptian Priest*, in basalt; a fragment of an *Egyptian Idol*; *Canephora*, found at Eleusis; two *Antique Chairs*, which originally belonged to the celebrated *Fulvius Ursinus*; an *Hermean statue of Sophocles*, found at Athens; *Alcibiades*, from the same place; *Anacreon*; *Pherecydes*, the Philosopher, cotemporary with *Thales*; a bust of *Hercules Juvenis*, with falling locks on each side of the head, which is covered with the lion's skin; *Achilles*, a bust dug up in
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the Campagna of Rome; *Attilius Regulus*, a bust; a group of *Nilus*, in small, resembling that formerly in the Capitol; a bust of *Sappho*; a bust of *Jupiter*, finely sculptured; an Herma of *Hercules*, with a close beard; *Jupiter* and *Minerva* receiving the vows of an Athenian, a basso-relievo, supposed to have been part of a frieze designed by Phidias, for the Pantheon at Athens; a basso-relievo of an antique *Syrén*; a fragment of the *Eleusinian Mysteries*, found at Eleusis; a basso-relievo of *Pluto*, with a youth standing before him, extremely curious, from displaying representations of the three kinds of cups used for consecrating wine; a fine specimen of the antique Terra-cotta, representing in basso-relievo, a *Man, with Three young Women*, washing the statue of the Deity of Lampsacus with a sponge; a large and very beautifully-sculptured basso-relievo of a *Bull*, the *Maxima Victima* of Virgil, found in Magna Græcia, near the ruins of Crotona, and thought to have belonged to some ancient temple; a basso-relievo of a *Young Woman caressing Doves*, found in the Isle of Paros, and conjectured to be the work of Praxiteles; a tripod belonging to the monument of Lysicrates, at Athens; and a fragment found at the Sigæan Promontory, representing an *Aunt* and *Niece* waiting the answer of the Oracle.*

The following PAINTINGS are of the very first degree of merit; the whole assemblage, indeed, is extremely fine.

HENRY THE EIGHTH, on pannel; Holbein: this was given by Henry himself to Sir James Worsley, then Governor of the Isle of Wight, after a visit to Sir James at Appuldurcombe.

CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk, and MARY, his wife, the Queen Dowager of France; small, on pannel; Mabuse: both these pieces are mentioned in Walpole's Anecdotes.

EDWARD THE SIXTH; Holbein: a very curious small picture, in which Edward is depicted as very young, with a rattle in his hand.

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* Two very sumptuous volumes, descriptive of these Marbles, in Italian and English, with engravings, have been printed by Sir Richard Worsley; but are not to be purchased: a copy is preserved in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries, Somerset-Place.

SIR HENRY NEVILLE, of Billingbeer; on pannel; Cornelius Jansen: Sir Henry was Ambassador from Queen Elizabeth to the Court of France; and father to FRANCES, who married Sir Richard Worsley in the reign of James the First, and whose portrait, by the same artist, is also preserved here.

PHILIP HERBERT, Earl of Pembroke, a small whole length; Vandyck.

WALTER, Earl of Essex, with the date 1572; Zuccharo.

ROXALANA, in the Georgian dress, half-length; Gentili Bellini. Roxalana was a Venetian, and was married to Soliman the Second, after having lived several years with him. Bellini painted this portrait at Constantinople, whither he had been sent for the purpose by the Doge of Venice, at the request of Soliman: she died in the year 1561.

PHILIP THE FOURTH of Spain, and his Queen ISABELLA of Bourbon, whole lengths, on horseback; Velasquez: these pictures were brought from Granada; both of them have been finely etched.

POPE ALEXANDER THE SIXTH, a fine head; Titian: this also was brought from Granada, where Alexander was born.

AMBROSIO CARADOSSO, the friend of Raphael, Engraver to Pope Julius the Second; Raphael.

Head of one of the MEDICI family; Carlo Dolci.

THOMAS HOBBS, the Philosopher of Malmsbury; Vandyck. Six Landscapes, with Figures; Zuccharelli: extremely fine.

Two Landscapes, Berghem; and one ditto, Garalfi.

The Saviour, and St. John Baptist, embracing; Raphael.

Consecration of a Bishop; Tintoretto: the figures in this piece are as large as life: Paul the Third is represented as officiating.

Cleopatra applying the asp; Murillo. This was presented to Sir R. Worsley by a Spanish nobleman, whose family had possessed it for upwards of a century. The composition is extremely beautiful, and singularly expressive of these lines in Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra:

Peace! Peace!

Dost thou not see my baby at my breast,
That sucks its nurse asleep?

Joseph

Joseph with the infant Christ; Titian: a very valuable picture.

St. Catherine; Murillo.

Daniel in the Lions' Den; Rubens.

The Stoning of St. Stephen; Titian: a very fine painting, and in excellent preservation.

Nymph and Satyr; Rubens.

Susannah and the Elders; Guercino.

A View in Italy; Gas. Poussin: the figures by N. Poussin.

Portrait of a Lady; Rubens.

A Madona; Guido.

A Dead Christ; Annibal Caracci.

The DRAWINGS are very numerous: among them are two Views of Athens; the Head of the Sphinx, and the Pyramids at Alexandria; the Pits where the Mummies are obtained near Cairo; the Ruins of the Gymnasium, at Alexandria; Troas, in Asia Minor; the Aqueduct of Justinian, near Constantinople; View of Constantinople, and the Harbour called the Golden Horn; Ruins of the Homariam, near Smyrna; Ruins of Hierapolis, in Upper Phrygia; and Ruins of a Grand Temple at Corinth: most of these drawings are executed upon a large scale.

The attractions at Appuldurcombe are not confined to the interior of the mansion; the Park is well stocked with deer; and the grounds are disposed with much beauty, independent of the advantages they have derived from Nature. The prospects also from the eminences are extremely fine, and comprehend a great portion of the Isle of Wight, as well as Spithead, Portsmouth, and the adjacent parts of Hampshire. The artificial ruins called *Cooke's Castle*, which stand on a rocky cliff at a considerable distance to the east, form a good object from various points of view. On the summit of the principal eminence in the Park, is an obelisk of Cornish granite, nearly seventy feet high, erected to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, by the present Baronet.

About two miles directly south from Appuldurcombe Park, on the sea-shore, in one of the most beautiful parts of the Island, near the Church of St. Lawrence, is an elegant COTTAGE, built a few years ago by Sir Richard Worsley, and surrounded by
grounds

grounds of an extremely romantic and picturesque character. Bold fragments of jutting rocks, irregular lawns, a crystal rivulet, and natural groups of fine elms, combine to give interest to the scenery; and still more to attract attention, on this spot is found the only VINEYARD in England. This has been raised by Sir Richard under the inspection of a French *Vigneron*, who commenced his operations in the year 1792, and the plants were put in the March following: it consists of two plantations, occupying about three acres of ground, sheltered from all unfriendly blasts by a high range of rocky hills. The vines, which are of the white Muscadine and Plant Verd sorts, are planted in beds twelve feet wide; being so arranged as to leave a foot and a half between each plant. The stems are about eight inches high, with two shoots on each stem, which are regularly cut off every spring, and their places supplied by other young ones; the shoots are kept at the length of two feet, or two feet and a half: a light white wine is made from the grapes. The novelty of this plantation, and the peculiar beauty of the coast, have attracted numerous visitants to this part of the Island.

The *Church* of St. Lawrence is the smallest in the Island, and perhaps in the whole Kingdom, its length being not more than twenty feet, and its breadth only twelve. The greatest part of this parish consists of a slip of land, extending about a mile and a half along the sea shore, and forming part of the romantic tract called UNDERCLIFF, which reaches from a small house, called Knowles, on the west, to Bonchurch on the east; a distance of nearly six miles. Above this singular region, the downs terminate abruptly in a steep precipice of limestone rock, which accompanies the Undercliff through its whole length, in an almost uninterrupted line, assuming the appearance of an immense stone wall, particularly when seen from any distance. The general elevation of this precipitous descent is from ninety to one hundred and twenty feet: the tract of land immediately beneath it extends to the sea, varying in breadth, from a quarter to three quarters of a mile, or upwards. "Through this interval of rock and water, colossal fragments of stone, torn or sunk from the precipice by some great convulsion of nature,

nature, lie scattered in the most irregular confusion. These solid masses are of such a ponderous magnitude, that they form eminences of the most capricious shapes; while the intermediate spaces become deep vallies, in which houses are built, and even ashes and elms are seen to flourish, sheltered from the storms and the spray of the sea, by the hospitable and lofty shades of these fragments. Every spot of this land, that can bear the impression of a plough, is uncommonly fertile, and well cultivated; but the fruitful patches are of all sizes and figures; and huge rocks, covered with briars, frequently arise from amidst a polygon inclosure of two or three acres.* The inequalities and rapid descents of many of the spots thus cultivated, occasion the ploughing them to be a work of considerable difficulty; and five or six horses are in some places necessary for that purpose. Many fresh separations from the precipices are visible; and the huge fragments beneath, frequently discover, by their form, the situations from which they have fallen. The road below the cliff is stony and irregular; but every inconvenience is compensated by the grandeur of the scenery. In some particular situations, a very distinct echo is returned from these rocks, even to the repetition of four syllables.

About a mile from St. Lawrence is another beautiful retreat, called STEEPHILL, now inhabited by the Earl of Dysart, but formerly belonging to the late Hans Stanley, Esq. who built the Cottage when Governor of this Isle. It stands on one of the dismembered rocks before described, nearly half way between the base of the precipice and the sea; and though small, is fitted up with much elegance. Some beautiful sea-pieces, by Vandervelde, ornament the interior. The cliffs, which are here covered with shrubs and coppice-wood, afford a fine and umbrageous canopy over the walks that have been formed beneath. The grounds are laid out with great taste. This part of the coast abounds with shell-fish of every kind; and vast quantities of crabs and lobsters are annually taken in the summer-season: the crab-pots, as they are called, are a sort of baskets made of wicker. The sun-fish is sometimes caught on this shore.

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* Wyndham's Picture of the Isle of Wight.

A few yards below, and almost under the Steephill Cottage, is the *New Inn*, where parties usually refresh themselves beneath the spreading foliage of a luxuriant fig-tree. From Steephill the country begins to wear a more open and cultivated appearance, but scarcely less romantic; the precipitous wall is succeeded by a rapid verdant slope of much greater elevation, trodden only by sheep, and in one part forcing the road to a narrow and tremendous pass, on the brink of a mouldering cliff, where a few ragged rails seem hardly sufficient to secure the traveller from danger. On doubling this point, the hamlet of VENTNOR presents itself, formed by a range of neat cottages, chiefly inhabited by fishermen, open to the sea in front, and backed by woods, and the high downs of St. Boniface. The situation of *Ventnor Mill* is well known to all the tourists of this Island, from its highly picturesque situation: it is worked by a small stream, which rises about a quarter of a mile above, and, after passing the mill-dam, falls in a cascade upon the beach.

The COTTAGE of ST. BONIFACE is finely seated at the foot of the steep and mountainous eminence of the same name, on a small level plain. This was the property of the late Colonel Hill, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of a branch of the Popham family: the grounds are disposed with much judgment, and possess great natural beauty. In front of the Cottage are several long ranges of rock, covered with coppice-wood; and admitting some partial views of the sea. At a short distance is a *Spring*, the virtues of which were formerly held in such high repute, that even seamen were accustomed to lower the fore-topmast on sailing past this place.

In approaching the village of ST. BONIFACE, or BONCHURCH, as it has long been corruptly termed, the scenery assumes a very different character: "the smooth declivity of the down is abruptly changed to a dreary and romantic waste of craggy, broken, and almost naked rocks; not of the magnitude of those between St. Lawrence and Steephill, but such as may be expected on the side of a mountain, where one great stone is checked in its progress by the projection of another, that is firm enough to resist its further fall.

fall. This is the leading feature of the higher parts of this small parish; the lower parts consist of the same stupendous fragments as are seen in the other spots of the Undercliff, on some of which arise isolated and natural pyramids.”*

BONCHURCH COTTAGE, the property of — Hatfield, Esq. stands in a most romantic situation: nearly opposite, is a singular rock, abruptly starting from the ground; on this, the proprietor of the cottage has erected a prospect seat, giving it the appearance of a small fort. The village *Church* is embosomed in fine trees: it is a small building, displaying marks of antiquity, particularly in a semicircular arch at the entrance.

Bonchurch was the birth-place of the gallant ADMIRAL HOBSON, who having been left an orphan at a very early age, was apprenticed to a taylor; but disliking his situation, and inspired by the sight of a squadron of men of war coming round Dun-nose, he suddenly quitted his work, ran to the beach, jumped into the first boat he saw, and plied his oars so skilfully, that he quickly reached the Admiral's ship, where he entered as a sea-boy. Within a day or two afterwards, they met a French squadron; and during the action that ensued, while the Admiral and his antagonist were engaged yard-arm and yard-arm, young Hobson contrived to get on board the enemy's ship unperceived, and struck and carried off the French flag: at the moment when he regained his own vessel, the British tars shouted ‘Victory,’ without any other cause than that the enemy's colors had disappeared. The French crew, thrown into confusion by this event, ran from their guns, and while the officers were ineffectually endeavoring to rally them, the British seamen boarded their ship, and forced them to surrender. At this juncture, Hobson descended from the shrouds with the French flag wrapped round his arm; and, after triumphantly exhibiting his prize to the seamen on the main-deck, he was ordered to the quarter-deck, where the Admiral complimented him on his bravery, and assured him of his protection. From this period his promotion was rapid; and having passed through the inferior ranks
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* Wyndham's *Isle of Wight*, p. 81.

of the service with much credit, he was made Admiral; and so great was the confidence which his Sovereign, Queen Anne, reposed in his discretion, that she gave him the command of a squadron, with a commission to cruize as his own judgment dictated.

The rude promontory of DUN-NOSE presents its craggy heights beyond Bonchurch, and, by precluding all passage along the shore, obliges the traveller to climb a steep and zig-zag road, that has been formed with much labor through the huge masses of disjointed rock, which lie scattered over the acclivity in all directions. On ascending the hill, and passing through some of the large and fertile fields on its summit, the eye is attracted by the chasm called LUCCOMBE CHINE: the sides of this ravine are clothed with shrubs and brush-wood; and at the bottom runs a stream of fine water, which, at the termination of the Chine, forms a small cascade. Before so much attention was given to prevent illicit trade, Luccombe Chine was the favorite haunt of smugglers; and many thousand pounds worth of property are known to have been securely concealed in its recesses.

The next remarkable object on this coast is SHANKLIN CHINE, a chasm of a similar description to that of Luccombe, but on a more enlarged scale; and, in consequence, assuming a greater proportion of magnificence and grandeur. It commences about half a mile from the shore, and gradually increasing in breadth and depth, becomes, where it opens to the sea, nearly sixty yards wide, and ninety deep. Through the depths of the cavity flows the Shanklin rivulet, which rises to the south of the village, and, after supplying the inhabitants with its pellucid waters, hurries down the Chine, and in one part forms a fall of about twenty feet. On rocky ledges, of different elevations near the mouth of the ravine, are two picturesque cottages; near the lowermost of which, a winding path, and some irregular stone steps, lead the venturous traveller to the sea-shore. In some places, the water is almost concealed from sight, by the quantity of shrubs, briars, dwarf trees, and under-wood, which fringe the interior of the chasm.

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“Exclusive of the Chine of Shanklin,” observes Mr. Wyndham, “which is deservedly ranked among the principal objects of the Island, the parish itself invites the attention of every observing passenger; for though not large, the neatness of every cottage; the park-like lawns through which the shady current meanders to the Chine; the acclivities around them, enriched with coppices, and with respectable ashes and oaks; and the mountainous range of its coast,” form a variety of fine prospects, of striking beauty and contrast.

It has been frequently asserted, and that with an air of great confidence, that SHANKLIN DOWN, which rises to the south-west of the village, has considerably increased both in bulk and height within the last sixty or seventy years: Warner mentions it as a *well-known fact*; and other writers corroborate his testimony. The increase in its elevation is said to be at least ‘one hundred feet;’ as demonstrated by its appearance from St. Catherine’s, from which, within the memory of man, it was not to be discovered, through the intervention of Week Down, but is now seen rising above the latter from the same spot, to the full height above mentioned.

SANDOWN COTTAGE, formerly the elegant retreat of the late John Wilkes, Esq. the chief star in the political horizon during the administration of the Earl of Bute, is situated near the shore of Sandown Bay, which extends about six miles, the eastern extremity being terminated by the chalky cliffs of Culver, and the south-western by the craggy rocks of the mountainous point of Dun-nose. The house is small, and elegantly fitted up: in the gardens are some detached and pleasant apartments, constructed with floor-cloth of the Kensington manufacture: these were ornamented with much neatness and classic taste by the late owner. The grounds are extremely pleasant, though not extensive. Immediately adjoining to the south-west, a range of BARRACKS has been erected for the accommodation of 300 men.

About half a mile eastward from the Cottage, is SANDOWN FORT, a regular quadrangular fortification, flanked with four bastions, situated on the level of the beach, and encompassed by a ditch. This was built in the reign of Henry the Eighth; yet

having been greatly neglected after the rise of the English navy, it became ruinous; but has of late years been repaired, and strengthened, at the expense of Government, and again placed on the military establishment: it is now the most considerable fort in the Island. During the American War, it was attacked by several privateers, though without effect.

CULVER CLIFFS, which rise to the height of 600 feet, and terminate the south-eastern extremity of Bimbridge Down, are supposed to derive their name from the Saxon *Culvre*, signifying a pigeon: numerous flocks of this species, as well as other kinds of birds, breed in the precipitous recesses of the Cliffs; which were also famous for a peculiar breed of hawks, now less plentiful than formerly. An eagle's nest was likewise taken on these steeps so lately as the year 1780, by one of the gatherers of *Samphire*, which grows here in abundance.

At the eastern part of the Cliffs, about fifty or sixty feet below the summit, is a natural hollow, called the HERMIT'S HOLE, the path to which is steep, narrow, and rugged; only fit to be trod by those who are accustomed to explore the recesses of these craggy eminences. This opening is but of small extent, and scarcely repays the difficulty of reaching it, unless the idea of danger may be supposed to give point to the interest. The Cliffs command the whole sweep of Sandown Bay, with Shanklin and Dun-nose in the distance. The views from the summit of BIMBRIDGE DOWN are peculiarly fine, and in some respects superior to those from any other part of the Island; particularly at the time of high water, when Brading Harbour resembles an extensive lake, surrounded with gentle slopes, covered with wood. The northern prospects comprehend St. Helen's Road, Spithead, and the neighbouring shores of Hampshire. The peninsula of Bimbridge is extremely fertile, and well cultivated.

The Manor of YAVERLAND was anciently part of the possessions of Sir Thomas de Aula, whose heiress conveyed it to the Russels, by marriage, in the reign of Edward the First. In the time of Henry the Sixth, it passed by an heiress to Stephen Hatfield; and again devolving to females, was purchased, in the first of

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Queen Mary, by German Richards, Esq. the last of whose family devised it, about forty years ago, to the Rev. Mr. Wright; and in default of his issue, to Exeter College, Oxford. The Manor-House is a spacious and respectable building, apparently of the time of Elizabeth, occupying a bold situation at the upper end of the village. Near it is the *Church*, a small edifice, supposed to have been built by the Russels: the door-way is ornamented with a curious semicircular arch.

BRADING

Is an ancient market-town, consisting of one long street of irregular buildings, situated at the upper end of Brading Haven, to which a convenient quay is attached, with store-houses for corn, &c. The inhabitants were formerly represented in Parliament; but were excused from returning members on their own petition, on account of inability to support them; each representative having been paid *four-pence* daily. No charter is extant of an earlier date than the first of Edward the Sixth; yet the town was incorporated long before that period; and is still governed by its corporate officers, consisting of a senior and junior Bailiff, a Recorder, and thirteen Jurats. The common seal is encircled with the words, *THE KYNG'S TOWNE OF BRAYDYNGE*; and the fee-farm annually paid into the Exchequer is four marks, or 2l. 13s. 4d. The *Town-Hall* is a small structure near the Church, with a market-place beneath.

The *Church* is supposed to be the most ancient foundation of the kind in the Island: Sir John Oglander attributes its erection to Wilfrid, Bishop of Chichester, in the year 704,* who is said to have baptised his first convert on this spot. The pillars of the nave are evidently of the Saxon order of architecture. It consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a tower at the west end: the aisles are separated from the nave by pointed arches of different forms; and at the end of each aisle is a small Chapel: that to the south was the burial-place of the Oglander family. On the monument

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* See first leaf of the Old Register Book of this Parish.

of SIR JOHN OGLANDER, and his father SIR WILLIAM, are their effigies, represented in complete armour, carved in wood. In the chancel, curiously cut on a large slab, is the figure of a man in armour, with his feet resting on two dogs; together with the figures, in ornamental niches, of the Virgin with the infant Saviour, and twelve Apostles; round the verge is this inscription:

*Hic jacet nobilis Johannis Cherablin armiger dum bibeat
 Constabularius castri de Porcestre, qui obiit anno dni. mille.^{mo}
^{mo} ^o
 quadringen. quadrage. primo, die ultima mens: octobris: anima
 ejus requiescat in pace. Amen.*

In the Church-yard, on the grave-stone of MRS. ANN BERRY, is the following epitaph, which has been beautifully set to music by Dr. Calcott, as a glee for three voices:

Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear
 That mourns thy exit from a world like this;
 Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here,
 And stay'd thy progress to the seats of bliss.

No more confin'd to groveling scenes of night,
 No more a tenant pent in mortal clay;
 Now should we rather hail thy glorious flight,
 And trace thy journey to the realms of day.

BRADING HAVEN is an extensive tract of marshy ground, covered every tide by the sea, and at high water admitting the passage of small vessels to the quay. As the sea flows in through a very narrow channel, the proprietors of this manor have several times been induced to endeavor to exclude it by an embankment; and the celebrated Sir Hugh Middleton, the ever-memorable projector of the New River, had at one period nearly effected this object; but in a wet season, the fresh water which filled the inner part of the haven, combining with the waves at a high spring tide, completely destroyed the works, which had been raised at an expense of 7000*l*. The Haven includes between eight and nine hundred acres: it abounds with excellent oysters, mullet, whittings,

and flat-fish: cockles are also caught here in prodigious plenty; the gathering them employs a great number of women and children in the summer season. Brading Parish is still one of the largest in the Island; though the parishes of St. Helen's, Yaverland, Shanklin, and Bonchurch, have all been taken out of its ancient limits. The number of houses it contained, as returned under the act of 1801, was 253; that of inhabitants, 1529.

NUNWELL, the ancient seat of the *Oglanders*, and now the property of Sir William Oglander, is situated about one mile west from Brading, on a gentle eminence, descending from the foot of Nunwell Down. The mansion is a plain building of brick, sheltered by a lofty grove of ash and lime-trees; it has been much improved by the present owner. The Park is about two miles in circumference, and contains some very fine oaks. The grounds are well diversified.

On the summit of ASHEY DOWN, which rises to the west of Nunwell, and forms the eastern termination of Arreton Down, is a triangular *Pyramid* of stone, about twenty feet high, with the apex finished in an oblique direction. This was erected by Government in the year 1735, as a *Sea-Mark*; the summit of the Down being conspicuous from almost every point of the horizon. The views from it are of proportionable extent and beauty. Near the Pyramid, a *Signal-House* has been lately built, for the purpose of communicating with three others placed in different parts of the Island, and designed to convey information of whatever shipping may appear on any quarter of the coast. At the foot of the Down, on the south, is an ancient and venerable mansion, called KNIGHTON HOUSE, the seat of G. M. Bisset, Esq. This, from the hills above, appears to be situated in the bosom of a valley; yet its prospects are extensive, from the yet lower elevation of the adjacent country. The grounds, though not extensive, contain some fine timber.

ST. HELEN'S GREEN is a small village of scattered cottages, neatly built with stone, and thatched: the ancient *Church* was partly taken down about the beginning of the last century, the Church-yard having been encroached on by the sea: the tower was

suffered to remain as a mark for seamen. The new *Church* is a small edifice, standing in a more elevated situation to the north-west of the village.

In this parish, in a beautiful situation opposite St. Helen's Road, was a **PRIORY** for Cluniac Monks, founded before the year 1155, and made subordinate to some Abbey in Normandy. The site of the ancient building is now occupied by the seat of Sir Nash Grose, one of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench, whose mansion, denominated **PRIORY**, commands some delightful views of the Hampshire and Sussex coasts. This edifice has been much enlarged and improved by the present possessor: it stands at the head of a spacious lawn, that gently declines from the house to the brink of a high ridge, the steep bank of which is covered with wood down to the water's edge: through this wood various pleasant walks have been cut, of irregular breadths, according to the steepness of the declivity. In the southern part of the wood are the remains of an ancient *Watch Tower*, supposed to have belonged to the Priory. The whole of this demesne is formed of a narrow slip of ground, about a mile in length, extending along the shore.

About three quarters of a mile north-west from Priory, is **FAIRY HILL**, the seat of the Rev. Henry Oglander; the house is a neat structure, and the grounds are pleasantly disposed as a *ferme ornée*: the sea views comprehend Spithead, and the coast of Hampshire. On the sea-shore, near Old Fort, is a *Saltern*.

ST. JOHN'S, situated near the angle of the road between Brading and the north coast of the Island, is the residence of Edward Simeon, Esq. The House, a small but neat building, was erected by the late Lord Amherst: it stands on a lofty eminence, in the centre of a sloping lawn, environed by trees, and, from its elevated site, commands some very extensive prospects, particularly to the north: the grounds have been lately improved under the direction of Mr. Repton. Between this demesne and the sea, is **APLEY**, the pleasant residence of the Rev. Dr. Walker. The northern prospects from this mansion are similar to those from St. John's.

RYDE is an irregular, but flourishing place, consisting of two divisions, called *Upper* and *Lower Ryde*, from their relative situa-

tions. Lower Ryde is near the water's edge, under a steep bank, at the extremity of a piece of land nearly twelve acres in extent, which separates it from Upper Ryde. This is the most populous and respectable part of the village; and the variety of prospects it affords, renders it extremely pleasant. Ryde is the principal thoroughfare between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth; and any person wanting to cross, is empowered by Act of Parliament, to command a boat to go off at any time of the tide, on paying five shillings: the usual charge in the regular boat, is only one shilling. Here is a bathing-machine; but, from the flatness of the shore, the time of bathing varies daily. The accommodations at Ryde have been much improved of late years; and several good lodging-houses have been opened.

The road between Ryde and Binstead is exceedingly pleasant. *BINSTead Church* displays marks of considerable antiquity, particularly in the arch which separates the nave and chancel; and in the arch of a door-way, now closed up, on the north-side, the key-stone of which is ornamented with a rudely sculptured figure, represented as sitting naked on a kind of bracket, resembling a horse's head. This sculpture, called the *Idol* by the country people, has given rise to much fanciful discussion.

Near Binstead are the ancient *Quarries*, from which part of the stone employed in the building Winchester Cathedral was obtained; and about three quarters of a mile to the west, are the remains of *QUARR ABBEY*, founded originally for Cistercians, by Baldwin, Earl of Devon, in the thirty-second of Henry the First. It was dedicated to St. Mary; and its benefactors were so numerous, that, at the period of the Dissolution, its annual revenues amounted to the sum of 134l. 13s. 11d. but Speed states them at 184l. 1s. 10d. Henry the Seventh granted the demesnes to John and George Mills, who destroyed the principal buildings for the sake of the materials. The Abbey estate was afterwards purchased by Lord Chief Justice Flemyng, in the possession of whose descendants it yet continues.

The situation of Quarr Abbey is very fine: the sea opens on the north; and on the south and east, are rich and luxuriant woods.

Most part of the boundary wall, which includes upwards of thirty acres of ground, is yet standing; together with remains of two gates, which formed the entrances on the north and south: each gate was secured by a portcullis; and from the ruins of a small stair-case attached to the north gate, it evidently appears to have been defended by a tower. The *Refectory* is now a barn, and the only building that remains entire; though the situation of several other parts of the monastic foundations may yet be traced. Part of the site is occupied by a modern farm-house, built with the old materials of the ruins; and some of the ancient monumental stones are seen in the pavement of the out-houses. Several illustrious personages were buried in this Abbey; among whom were Earl Baldwin, the founder, and his Countess, Adeliza. William de Vernon also bequeathed 300*l.* for erecting a tomb here for himself and father. And in the Chapel was a monument for the Lady Cicely, second daughter of Edward the Fourth. A metal ring was dug up a few years ago in the grounds, with the inscription MARIE + DEI + MENI.

The sequestered road which leads from Quarr Abbey to Wootten Bridge, passes through the beautiful and extensive wood called *Firestone*, which abounds with aged oaks, and renders the estuary of the Wootten River extremely picturesque; particularly at the times of high water, when the estuary resembles an extensive lake. WOOTTEN BRIDGE is a long narrow causeway, upwards of three hundred yards in length, on the high road to Newport. At *Wootten Farm*, which includes the tract described as a Park in Speed's Survey of this Island, is an ancient oak of remarkably large dimensions; its girth being forty-seven feet.

On a commanding eminence, southward from the Bridge, is FERN HILL, the seat of Charles Chute, Esq. The House was erected by the present Lord Bolton; it bears some resemblance to a Church; one end consisting of a lofty and handsome tower, rising above a single apartment of inferior height and breadth, at the opposite extremity. The prospect of Spithead, and the adjacent parts of Hampshire, from this eminence, can scarcely be exceeded in beauty by any view in the Island.

On ARRETON DOWN, about three miles to the south, several ancient *Weapons* were found near a marl pit, in the year 1735-6. Some spear-heads and axes were among them, bearing a resemblance to similar instruments sculptured on Roman altars: on the same eminence are two large Barrows.*

On the east side of the Medina River, about three quarters of a mile below Newport, is FAIRLEE, the pleasant seat of John White, Esq. The House is a plain building of glazed brick, standing on a gentle eminence sloping to the river. One mile lower, and nearly opposite to each other, are the *East* and *West Mills*, two immense piles of brick and stone-work, said to be capable of grinding forty loads of corn weekly: here immense quantities of biscuits are made for the use of the navy; these fabrics possessing every convenience for the purpose.

At Barton was an ORATORY of Augustines, founded in the year 1282, by John de Insula, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. In the reign of Henry the Sixth, it was surrendered to Bishop Wainfleet, by whose interest its lands were granted to the College at Winchester. The farm-house on this estate includes some part of the ancient Oratory: it belongs to Barrington Pope Blachford, Esq. whose neighbouring Mansion, called OSBORNE HOUSE, formerly tenanted by the Earl of Glencairne, is one of the most spacious and best houses in the Island. This building occupies the summit of a hill, commanding some of the finest prospects on this part of the coast.

NORRIS, a handsome modern edifice, built by James Wyatt, Esq. for Lord Henry Seymour, stands in a peculiarly fine situation near the shore; and commands some grand and extensive views of Southampton Water, Portsmouth, and the adjacent parts.

EAST COWES, a thriving hamlet in the parish of Whippingham, is situated on the east side of the mouth of the Medina River, and immediately opposite to West Cowes. Many of the houses are respectable; but the buildings are not arranged in any regular form. This is a place of some trade, from its con-

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* Archæologia, Vol. IV. p. 113.

tiguity to West Cowes: a small Custom-House has been built here. On the brow of the neighbouring hill is EAST COWES CASTLE, a modern edifice, commanding some fine sea-views: this was erected by John Nash, Esq. the present possessor, whose architectural ability has been eminently displayed in the north front of Corsham House, in Wiltshire. Its appearance is somewhat novel; as it consists of one square and two round towers, ornamented with battlements: the interior is disposed with much skill, to suit the domestic economy of a small family. The spot called *Old Castle Point*, on this coast, was the site of a Fort built by Henry the Eighth; no part of which is now standing.

WEST COWES, situated on the declivity of a steep eminence, on the west side of the mouth of the Medina, is a chapelry to Northwood, and now a large and populous place; though its building was not commenced till Henry the Eighth erected a CASTLE here, which is yet standing at the entrance of the Harbour: this fortress principally consists of a small battery, in the form of a crescent. The streets of Cowes are narrow and ill-built; but, from the manner in which they rise one above another from the water's edge, they have a singular and not displeasing appearance, both from the sea, and from the opposite banks of the river. The conveniency of this town for bathing, has of late years occasioned it to become the resort of much fashionable company; the general accommodations also are very good: the bathing-machines are stationed on a fine beach to the west of the Castle. The trade carried on here is extensive, particularly in provisions, and other articles, for the use of the shipping. The *Chapel* was consecrated in the year 1662: the number of the inhabitants is continually varying; but that of the general residents is upwards of 2000. Many handsome houses, inhabited by respectable families, have been built in the upper parts, and in the vicinity of this town. The pleasant seat to the west of the Castle, called EGYPT, the property of D. Collins, Esq. occupies the most northerly point of the Island.

NEWTOWN, though reduced to about *ten cottages*, is still a borough and corporate town; returning two representatives to Parliament,

liament, and being governed by a Mayor and Corporation. It was formerly called *Francheville*, by which name it occurs in a charter granted by Aymer, Bishop of Winchester, who bestowed the same liberties and franchises on its Burgesses, as were enjoyed by the Burgesses of Taunton, Alisford, and Farnham. This charter was confirmed by Edward the Second, and Edward the Fourth; and was again ratified by Queen Elizabeth, in the twenty-seventh of whose reign the inhabitants were first represented in Parliament. The Members are chosen in the *Town-Hall*, which stands on an eminence overlooking one of the creeks of Newtown Harbour: the right of election, as determined by the House of Commons in 1729, is vested in the Mayor and Burgesses having borough lands.

Newtown was formerly of much greater extent than at present; it is thought to have been burnt by the Danes in the year 1001, as it certainly was by the French in the reign of Richard the Second. From the appearance of the ground, it is evident that here were two long streets extending from east to west, connected by other streets running north and south. Many small burgage lands lie on each side the old streets; and in some ancient deeds are the names both of High Street and Gold Street. The *Haven* of Newtown, which is formed by the junction of Newtown River with the Sea, is extremely pleasant and secure; at high water it is of sufficient depth for vessels of 500 tons burthen: on the different creeks of this harbour are several *Salterns*.

On the west side of the Newport River, on HAMPSTED FARM, is a spacious and picturesque new farm-house, built by J. Nash, Esq. forming a fine object from several different points. The farm includes about 1100 acres, which have been brought into high cultivation within these few years, from a state approaching to sterility.

SHALFLEET Church is an ancient and singular structure; it consists of a body, chancel, and south-aisle, with a low tower of considerable magnitude. The north porch is of Norman architecture, embellished with a rude sculpture of a Bishop, with his arms extended, and his hands resting on animals resembling griffins. The windows were formerly ornamented with painted glass; the
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arms of Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and of Isabella de Fortibus, still remain in them.

YARMOUTH,

ANCIENTLY called *Eremuth*, is a small borough and corporate town, situated on the east side of the mouth of the river Yar. This, like Newtown, was formerly a place of much greater importance than now; and, like that also, was destroyed by the French in the reign of Richard the Second. Its original charter was granted by Baldwin, Earl of Devon, and was confirmed by Edward the First, and other Sovereigns. The charter of re-incorporation, granted in the seventh of James the First, states, that the inhabitants were ‘greatly impoverished when the town was burnt by the enemy;’ and, after other remarks, it appoints a Common Council of twelve chief Burgesses, from among whom one should be annually chosen as Mayor. The right of election is *nominally* in these officers, and in free Burgesses, who are chosen by the capital Burgesses; but the real right is possessed by one or two individuals; as is the case both at Newtown, and Newport: the first return was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First; the number of voters is twelve.

At the west end of Yarmouth is a small Fort, or CASTLE, erected in the time of Henry the Eighth, on the site of the Church, which had been demolished by the French a short time before: it chiefly consists of a platform with eight guns. The present Church stands near the centre of the town; it consists of a nave and chancel, with a small Chapel separated from the latter: in the Chapel is a well-executed monument to the memory of the gallant Admiral SIR ROBERT HOLMES, who was Governor of the Island in the reign of Charles the Second, and entertained that Monarch at Yarmouth, in a house built purposely for his reception, but which is now an inn. The statue of Sir Robert is carved in white marble, and placed on a pedestal inscribed with a Latin epitaph, particularising some of the martial exploits of the deceased; he died in November, 1692. From the Quay a daily intercourse is maintained with

with Lymington, which lies nearly opposite. The inhabitants of Yarmouth, as returned under the late act, amounted to 343; the number of houses to 73.

On the sea-shore, westward from the Yar River, are the remains of WORSLEY'S TOWER, and CAREY'S SCONCE; two fortifications successively erected near the same spot, in the reigns of Henry the Eighth and Elizabeth. The former was built under the direction of Sir Richard Worsley, who also superintended the construction of Yarmouth Castle, but having fallen to decay, its place was supplied by another fort, built by Sir George Carey.

Near the village of FRESHWATER, on the western banks of the Yar, is FRESHWATER HOUSE, the seat of Edward Rushworth, Esq. The grounds are pleasant and extensive.

Freshwater was the birth-place of DR. ROBERT HOOKE, the ingenious inventor of the pendulum spring for watches. He was born in the year 1635: his father was Curate of the parish; but dying while his son was young, the latter was taken into the house of the Rev. Dr. Busby, and educated under his care. Here he acquired a competent knowledge of Latin and Greek, and also a considerable acquaintance with the Oriental languages. Removing to Christ-Church, Oxford, the attention which he bestowed on science, recommended him to Dr. Willis, whom he frequently assisted in his chemical operations; and by whom he was introduced to the Hon. Robert Boyle. This great man engaged him as an assistant in the mechanical and philosophical works he was then employed on; and Hooke's penetrating genius contributed in a considerable degree to the invention and construction of the air-pump. On the institution of the Royal Society, he became one of its Fellows. He was afterwards intrusted with the care of its repository, and made Professor of Mechanics to that learned body: about the same period he was elected Professor of Geometry in Gresham College. After the Fire of London, in 1666, he was appointed one of the city Surveyors, in which employment he attained affluence; but the mechanical sciences were still the favorite objects of his pursuit. In 1691 he was created M. D. by warrant from Archbishop Tillotson. It does not appear, however, that he was ever professionally

professionally engaged in the practice of physic. He died in the year 1702. Several of his papers were printed in the *Philosophical Transactions*; but the chief work published in his life-time, was intituled, ‘*Micographia, or Philosophical Descriptions of minute Bodies,*’ &c. His posthumous works appeared in 1705, in one volume folio. The sciences are indebted to him for many valuable instruments, as well as for various improvements in those previously in use.

FRESHWATER GATE is a small creek, in the centre of Freshwater Bay, separated only by a narrow isthmus of pebbles from the source of the Yar River. On the west side, between two and three hundred yards from a convenient little inn, that has been built for the accommodation of travellers on this coast, is an extensive natural *Cavern*, opening to the sea. The principal entrance forms a rugged segment of a circle, about twenty feet high, and thirty-five feet wide: its depth is about 120 feet. This can only be approached at low water; even then the access is very difficult from the jutting craggs, and lofty fragments of rocks, that obstruct the passage. At some distance to the eastward, about 500 yards from the shore, are two insulated rocks, through one of which the waves have formed an opening, resembling a picturesque arch. The views of this part of the coast from the sea are extremely fine. The cliffs are the resort and breeding-places of innumerable multitudes of marine birds,* whose various notes, mixed with the solemn roar of the waves that rush into the caverns, and break among the rocks beneath, produce a most singular, yet not unpleasing concert. The prospect from the *Light-House*, on the highest point of the Freshwater Cliffs, is extremely magnificent, and includes a full view of the Needle Rocks. The violence of the sea is continually making devastations on this coast.

The road eastward from Freshwater, passes over a range of *High Downs*, from four to six hundred feet above the level of the sea; and commanding prospects of proportionable extent. The lands below these hills to the south, are extremely fertile, and well

* See Account of the Needles, p. 350, 351.

well cultivated; yet there is little to entertain the eye, but extensive fields, and a boundless expanse of water. These heights have different names, according to their situations: on BROOK DOWN, so called from its contiguity to the village of Brook, are several *Tumuli*, each encompassed with a small foss: these may possibly have been raised after a battle, as there is a place adjacent to the Down, called Dunsbury, most probably a corruption from Danesbury. At *Mead End*, near Brook, large timber and hazel-nuts are found at a considerable depth in the soil.

MOTTESTON is a small village, pleasantly situated, in full view of the sea. This manor was part of the possessions of the ancient family *De Insula*; but in the year 1374, it became the property of Edward Chyke, Esq. whose descendants retained it for upwards of 300 years. Of this family was the celebrated SIR JOHN CHEKE, Knt. who, according to some writers, was born here, in the Manor-House; but others have recorded the town of Cambridge as the place of his birth. Sir John was the first Greek scholar of his age.†

WESTOVER, in the parish of Calbourne, is a small hunting seat, the property of Lord Holmes: the Mansion stands on a gentle eminence, from which the north-west views are very fine.

In CALBOURNE Church is an ancient tomb, inlaid with a Brass, representing a Knight in complete armour, with his feet resting on a dog: the upper part of the figure is included by a niche, apparently of the workmanship of the fourteenth century. This edifice consists of a body, and transept, with a tower at the south-west angle.

FROG HILL, the seat of Fitzwilliam Barrington, Esq. is pleasantly situated to the north-west from Calbourne Church, near the margin of a pellucid stream, which rises on Swainston Down, and flows into the Newport River. The House, though small, is elegantly fitted up; and the grounds are disposed with much taste.

SWAINSTON, the seat of Sir John Barrington, Bart. was anciently the property of the Bishops of Winchester. In the reign of
Edward

† See Vol. II. p. 107.

Edward the First, it was surrendered to the Crown; and afterwards passed through various noble families, till, in the first of Queen Mary, it was finally granted to Winifred, daughter and co-heiress of Henry, son of the Countess of Salisbury, the last possessor, whom the tyrant, Henry the Eighth, had caused to be decapitated. This Lady, for her second husband, married Sir Thomas Barrington, Knt. whose son Francis was created a Baronet by James the First: from him the manor has regularly descended to its present possessor. The House is a small, yet convenient structure, finely situated in the midst of a wide and sylvan demesne. The grounds are extensive, and judiciously laid out: the woods and plantations have been much enlarged by the present owner.

NORTH-COURT HOUSE, near the village of Shorwell, is the property and residence of Richard Bull, Esq. who purchased it of the Leigh family, its ancient possessors. This building was commenced by Sir John Leigh, in the early part of the reign of James the First, and finished by his son; but it has been since altered, and the interior rendered more convenient: the east front retains its primary and venerable form. The grounds are nearly in the same state as originally disposed, in ranges of small terraces, with seats and walls for fruit: a small stream rises in a shrubbery near the lawn, and flows southward through the garden. In SHORWELL Church are several handsome monuments of the Leigh family. This was originally a Chapelry to Carisbrooke, but was made a separate parish in the reign of Edward the Third. On the borders of this parish, adjoining Carisbrooke, is BILLINGHAM, the seat of the Rev. James Worsley.

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL, the western ascent of which commences near Chale Church, is the highest eminence in the Island, its summit being 750 feet above high-water mark. The prospects are uncommonly fine, including both land and sea views, of great extent. On this eminence a *Chapel*, dedicated to St. Catherine, was erected in the year 1323, by Walter, Lord of the Manor of Godyton, in this neighbourhood; the tower was employed as a Light-House, and sea-mark; to the latter of which purposes it is yet appropriated, and is still called ST. CATHERINE'S TOWER.

Its

Its utility having been frequently demonstrated in guiding the mariner from the rocks of this dangerous coast, the shell of this building was repaired a few years ago, and strengthened by buttresses; its height is thirty-six feet; on the outside it forms an octagon, but the vacuity within is quadrangular. Before the Chapel was built, an *Hermitage* had stood upon this spot, as appears from an entry in the register of the Diocese of Winchester, under the year 1312. Near the Tower, the Brethren of the Trinity-House erected a circular Light-House, about fifteen or twenty years ago; but it was found to be of no use, when its friendly aid was most necessary; the summit of the hill being continually obscured by vapours in bad weather: no light, therefore, is now exhibited in it.

On the south-western declivity of St. Catherine's Hill commences the rude chasm distinguished by the name of BLACK-GANG CHINE, which has partly been formed by the springs that rise here. "Two currents from distant parts of this hill, have made their way to its brow, and, from this height, have excavated two large and separate chasms, but their waters form a junction at the foot of a high prominent point, the sides of which have been torn away by the respective torrents. The chasms at this junction become one, and consequently much deepened; the waters more rapidly hurry down the steep channel, for about 200 yards, till they arrive at an impenetrable precipice of rock, from which they fall in a perpendicular sheet, of forty feet, upon the shore. The declivities of this Chine are lined alternately with strata of rock, and of a dark, crumbling earth, from the latter of which, its name of Black-Gang is probably derived. This earth having been washed away by the current, the rock above it, of course, became undermined, and has fallen: the stones lie in large fragments throughout every part of the channel; but a long and upright stratum of rock extends itself on each side of the chasm, and gives the appearance of a regular and grand embankment to the declivity."* The view of this Chine from the shore is very striking; from the impending and overhanging cliffs, and the dark hue and nakedness of the mouldering precipices.

* Wyndham's Isle of Wight, p. 126, 127.

precipices. The grandeur of this scene is much lessened in dry weather, from the want of water; but after hard rains, in stormy seasons, its appearance is impressively awful. Many smaller *Chines* exist on this exposed coast; but none of them of sufficient interest for description.

During the continuance of a hard frost in February, 1799, a remarkable *Phænomenon* happened on this coast, about half a mile south-eastward from Black-Gang Chine. The whole of a farm, called PITLANDS, on the confines of the parishes of Niton and Chale, and consisting of 100 acres of various kinds of land, was observed to be in motion, and continued so during two successive days, directing its course towards the sea, in nearly a direct line. The changes which took place upon the surface were extremely curious, as there was scarcely a square yard but what had altered its appearance; both rocks and trees shifting their situations, and forming as confused a scene, as if the ground had been convulsed by an earthquake. In many places, the earth sunk to the depth of thirty or forty feet; and a cottage, which had been tastefully fitted up as a prospect-house, was partly thrown down, and buried in the fissures. This *Landslip*, appears to have been occasioned by the freezing of the springs in the chasms of the hill; the expansive force of the ice causing a separation at the base of the cliff beneath the hill, the ground began to move forward; and the lands of the farm being pressed on by the descending mass, were torn from their original foundations, and sullenly moved forward, till all further progress was stopped by the stability of a ridge of rocks, which, like an opposing barrier, prevented the dreary wreck from rushing headlong to the sea.



HEREFORDSHIRE.

AT the period of the Roman Invasion, HEREFORDSHIRE was inhabited by the SILURES, who also occupied the adjacent counties of Radnor, Monmouth, and Glamorgan, together with that part of Gloucestershire which lies westward from the Severn. In the British language, this district was called indifferently, by the nearly synonymous names of *Esyllwg* and *Gwent*; words implying an open country of downs, abounding with prospects: hence its inhabitants were denominated *Gwyr Esyllwg*, *Gwyr Esyllyr*, &c. and from their derivatives, SYLLYRWYS.* Their language, called the *Gwenhwyseg*, was one of the three principal dialects of Wales; and several valuable manuscripts written in it, are yet preserved.†

The Silures were a brave and hardy people, and, in conjunction with the *Ordovices*, or inhabitants of North Wales, retarded, for a considerable period, the progress of the Roman arms. The grand object of all the operations of Ostorius Scapula, who commanded under the Emperor Claudius, appears to have been the conquest of these nations; which had chosen the gallant CARACTACUS as their Chieftain, and resolutely exhausted every effort in defence of the independence of their country.

On the arrival of Ostorius, the Roman army appears to have occupied the chain of forts which Aulus Plautius, his predecessor, had constructed in the vicinity of the Severn, and the Avon; and previous to this period, the country of the Silures and Ordovices had suffered no diminution from the Roman arms: “the frontier of the one, now the county of *Hereford*, met the frontier of the other, *Shropshire*, on the border of the present county of Worcester-

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ter;

* Cambrian Register, Vol. I. p. 8.

† Ibid.

ter, and there presented the nearest, if not the only, point of attack, from which Ostorius could make an impression on both nations, or take advantage of circumstances to act against either. This geographical statement has led to a conjecture, that a line of entrenchments, extending on the banks of the river Teme, from the vicinity of Worcester, to the scene of the subsequent battle, was occupied by Caractacus and Ostorius; the former retreating as the latter advanced; and thus drawing on the Romans to a place advantageously formed for defence, and as much as possible detached from any assistance which might be afforded to them in case of their defeat, or any other emergency.

“ This line is supposed to have began on Malvern Hills, where British and Roman entrenchments are still to be seen. The two next, the one Roman, the other British, occurred at Whitbourn:* they were situated on the opposite sides of a valley, as if opposed to each other; but the traces of both are now almost obliterated. The fourth is at Thornbury, a British post of great strength between Bromyard and Leominster. The fifth at Croft, another very strong British camp, between Leominster and Wigmore. The sixth is a large Roman entrenchment, called Brandon: and the seventh, which is British, is on *Coxwall-Knoll*, near Brampton-Bryan. Near Downton, also, on the east of Leintwardine, is a small entrenchment, which was apparently thrown up to guard the passage of the Teme at that place; and was probably connected with the operations supposed to have taken place on the line above mentioned.

“ Recurring to the proceedings of the Britons, we learn from Tacitus, that, in addition to their natural valor, they were now animated by confidence in a leader, whom neither prosperity could unguard, nor adversity deject; and whose fame had far surpassed that of all his cotemporaries. Inferior in numbers, but trusting to his own military skill, and knowledge of the country, Caractacus determined that the territories of the Ordovices should be the scene of his defence; and the spot which he finally chose for the struggle,

* Harlean MSS. by Silas Taylor.

struggle, is described by the historian, as in all respects discouraging to his enemies, and favorable to himself. Where Nature had not rendered the eminence inaccessible, he piled large stones on each other, in the form of a rampart: a stream of irregular depth flowed in his front, and a strong body of troops was stationed on the outside of his works in battle array. The leaders of the various tribes prepared them for the contest, by exciting their hopes, by inflaming their resentments, and by urging every motive that could animate their valor. Caractacus himself, darting through the ranks, exclaimed, ‘Remember, Britons, this day is to decide whether we shall be slaves, or free! Recollect and imitate the achievements of our ancestors, whose valor expelled Julius Cæsar from our coasts, rescued their country from paying tribute to foreigners, and saved their wives and their daughters from infamy and violation!’ Inflamed by this address, every one shouted applause, and bound themselves, by their peculiar oaths, to conquer or perish.

“Ostorius was staggered by the resolute appearance, and formidable position, of his adversaries; but his troops eagerly demanded battle, and exclaimed, that Roman valor could surmount every obstacle. Observing, therefore, what points were most proper for the attack, he led on his army, and forded the river without difficulty: but, before they could reach the rampart of stone, the Romans suffered severely from the darts of the Britons, and success long appeared doubtful. At length, forming the *testudo*, or shell, by locking their shields together over their heads, they reached the wall, and making several breaches in it, brought on a close engagement. Unprovided with helmets, or breast-plates, the Britons could not withstand the attack, but fell back towards the summit of the hill: a few desperate efforts from this point could not avail them, and victory declared for the Romans. The wife and daughter of Caractacus were taken on the field of battle; and his brothers surrendered themselves prisoners: he himself escaped into the country of the Brigantes, and claimed the protection of their Queen, Cartismandua; but dreading the resentment of the

Romans, which had been recently directed against her territories, she was induced to deliver him bound to Ostorius.”*

The spot on which this important battle was fought, has been greatly contested by antiquaries and historians. Camden places it on the high eminence called *Caer-Caradoc*, in Shropshire, about three miles north from the Teme, and at no great distance from the junction of the Jay and the Coln with that river. This has evidently been a British post, and might probably have been occupied by Caractacus at some period or other; together with the two others which bear the same name; the one near Church-Stretton, in Shropshire; and the second in the parish of Sellack, in this county; but the real scene of his defeat appears to have been *Coxwall-Knoll*, as originally suggested by General Roy in his *Military Antiquities*. Mr. Duncumb adopts the same idea, and observes, that the situation, and other circumstances of this eminence, strikingly correspond with the account given by the Roman Historian.

Coxwall-Knoll, continues Mr. Duncumb, “is situated in a beautiful valley, near Brampton-Bryan: it is luxuriantly covered with wood; one part of it, that towards the south, is within the limits of Herefordshire, whilst that towards the north is within those of Shropshire. On the top is a very strong entrenchment, of British construction, and of much greater extent than that at *Caer-Caradoc*. The access is difficult on all sides: on the south ‘an artificial terrace is cut along the brow of the hill,’† in front of the entrenchment; and the river Teme flows below in the same direction. The Teme continually varies in its depth and impetuosity, according to the proportion of rain received into its channel from the adjacent hills. Immediately opposite, and at the distance of one mile, with the river between them, is the Roman post of Brandon, ‘a single square work, with four posts,’‡ more strong towards Coxwall than in any other part. “In

* Collections towards the History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford, by John Duncumb, A. M. Vol. I. p. 9—12.

† Roy’s *Military Antiquities*.

‡ Gibson’s *Additions to Camden*.

“In the supposed line of march by Caractacus and Ostorius, the latter would occupy Brandon, when the former had retreated to Coxwall. Thus situated, the formidable situation of the Britons, and the obstacles to be encountered in attacking them, were all within view of the Romans: they demanded, and were led to the combat: fording the river, they reached the rampart, which probably stood on the artificial terrace described by General Roy, and finally defeated the Britons in the entrenchments above. To these conjectures, which are offered with the utmost deference, it may be opposed, that the Teme near Coxwall is but an inconsiderable river, having a smooth and gravelly bottom, and so little water, except when flooded from the hills, that troops may march across it in line for two or three miles together. To this it is replied, that all rivers suffer some decrease, in proportion as the country through which they pass becomes more cultivated; that the words of Tacitus, ‘*præfluebat amnis vado incerto*,’ evidently apply to a river subject to frequent variations; that no difficulties were experienced when the fording took place, ‘*amnemque haud difficulter avadit*,’ and that probably the Romans exaggerated the obstacles to increase their own reputation.”*

The defeat and captivity of Caractacus, produced a temporary suspension of the war; but the determined spirits of the Silures were yet unsubdued, and, after a short interval of preparation, they again took the field, keeping the Romans in perpetual alarm by sudden attacks, whenever circumstances afforded a prospect of success. Their resentment received strength from the unwise declaration of Ostorius, that ‘the very name of the Silures should be extirpated, as that of the Sigambri had been in Gaul;’ and so far was the purpose of this General from being accomplished, that he himself fell a victim to the fatigue and anxiety which the increased success of the Silurian arms had occasioned him.

During the various successive Proprætorships for upwards of twenty years, neither the terrors of coercion, nor the power of clemency, were able to reduce the Silures to Roman bondage; but

* Duncumb’s Herefordshire, Vol. I. p. 14, 15.

at length the military talents of Julius Frontinus aiding the superior discipline of the Roman soldiers, obliged this brave people to relinquish to their enemies the Forest of Dean, and the present counties of Hereford and Monmouth. Retiring into the fastnesses of Wales, the Silures offered no further resistance to Roman domination; and the complete and undisturbed possession of South Britain, was by this success insured to the conquerors, who included Herefordshire in the district named *BRITANNIA SECUNDA*.

Two of the principal stations of the Itinerary of Antoninus, that is, *MAGNA*, now *Kenchester*, and *ARICONIUM*, near Ross, together with the smaller port of *BRAVINIUM*, or *Brandon*, are situated within the limits of this county. The *Walling Street* enters it on the north from Shropshire, near Leintwardine, where it passes the river Teme, and conducts to the Camp of Brandon. Thence continuing in a southern direction, it proceeds by Wigmore, Mortimer's Cross, Street, Stretford, and Portway, to Kenchester. Leaving this station, and inclining to the south-west, it crosses the river Wye, near the Wear, and passing Kingston, Dore, and Longtown, enters Monmouthshire, and proceeds to Abergavenny, the *Gobannium* of the Romans. This road is very visible on Four-ways Common, near Madley; and several entrenchments occur in different parts of the line as it crosses the county. A second Roman road, and ultimately joining with the former at Usk, enters Herefordshire on the south-east from Gloucestershire; and appears to have connected the stations of *Glevum*, or Gloucester, *Ariconium*, *Blestium*, or Monmouth, and *Burrium*, or Usk. A third Roman road enters this county from Worcestershire, and passing Frome Hill, Stretton-Gransham, or Grandison, Lugg-bridge, Holmer, and Stretton-Sugwas, extends to Kenchester. A fourth ancient road, called the *Ridge-way*, is met with to the south of the Herefordshire Beacon, extending for several miles towards Eastnor, in a kind of circular direction.

On the decline of the Roman power, the Silures, who had been the last to surrender their independence, were the first to regain it; and uniting with the other Britons, under the successive commands of Uther Pendragon, and Arthur, they once more displayed their bravery in defending the Island from Saxon usurpation. The nu-

merous hordes of these barbarians, however, that were continually landing upon our shores, conjointly with the effects of internal division, rendered resistance unavailing; and the Britons being driven to the mountains of Wales, Herefordshire became incorporated with the Saxon kingdom of Mercia; yet this was not effected till the Saxon power in this district had arrived at its greatest height under the renowned Offa. The original line of demarkation, which had been the river Severn, was now violated, and the famous *Dyke*, called *Clawdd Offa*, was made by that Prince to secure his conquests, which comprehended nearly the whole of this county; together with considerable portions of Radnorshire, Monmouthshire, and Shropshire. Still further to repress the repeated incursions of the Britons, Offa removed his court to South-town, now Sutton, about three miles north-west from Hereford, where he erected a palace, on an eminence, defended by strong entrenchments. About the end of the eighth century, the Danes obtained a temporary possession of Mercia, but were expelled by Burthred, the lawful heir, who, after a reign of twenty years, was himself defeated by these invaders, and deprived of his kingdom; which was soon afterwards subdued by Alured, King of the West Saxons, who annexed it to his own. Egbert, his successor, was the politic chieftain that united the various Saxon states into one Sovereignty, and thus laid the foundation of the glory and pre-eminence of Britain. During the wars which occurred between the time of the reign of this Prince, and the complete subjugation of Wales, Herefordshire suffered greatly from the different incursions that were made, at various periods, by the brave descendants of the ancient Britons.

This county is bounded on the north by Shropshire; on the north-east, and east, by Worcestershire; on the south-east, by Gloucestershire; on the south-west, by Monmouthshire; on the west, by Brecknockshire; and on the north-west, by Radnorshire. Its form is nearly an ellipsis; but some detached parishes are situated beyond the general outline: of these, Farlow is surrounded by Shropshire; Rochford is included in the County of Worcester; and Lytton Hill, in that of Radnor: a considerable tract of land, called the Futhog, with a few acres on the Devaudin Hill, is insu-

lated by Monmouthshire. Its greatest extent, from Ludford on the north, to the opposite border, near Monmouth on the south, is thirty-eight miles: its greatest width, from Clifford on the west, to Cradley on the east, is thirty-five miles. It includes about 800,000 acres, and is divided into eleven hundreds, containing 221 parishes, one city, and six market-towns: the number of houses, as enumerated under the act of 1801, was 19,763; that of inhabitants, 89,191: its boundaries are mostly artificial.

The general aspect of Herefordshire is extremely beautiful: its surface is finely diversified, and broken by swelling heights, so as greatly to resemble the more central parts of Kent. From many of these elevations, the prospects are extremely fine; but are peculiarly so from the Malvern Hills on the east, and the Hatterell, or Black Mountains, on the west. The fertility of the soil is very great; and the county is clothed in almost perpetual verdure. On every side a luxuriance of vegetation is exhibited in widely-extended corn-fields, teeming orchards, expansive meadows, and flourishing plantations. The courses of the rivers and brooks may be traced from any of the adjacent eminences, by the rich lines of wood which skirt their margins: much valuable timber is also scattered over the county in hedge-rows, as well as on the sides and summits of the knolls, and higher elevations. Every part seems uniformly productive; except, perhaps, on the northern and western outskirts.

The general character of the soil is a mixture of marle and clay, containing a large proportion of calcareous earth. The substrata is mostly *Lime-stone*, of different qualities; in some parts, particularly near Snodhill Castle, assuming the properties of *Marble*, and becoming beautifully variegated with red and white veins. Towards the western borders, the soil is cold, and retentive of moisture; but still argillaceous, with a base of soft crumbling stone, which decomposes on exposure to the atmosphere; or of nodules of impure lime-stone. The eastern side of the county is principally a stiff clay, of great tenacity and strength, and in many places of a red color: a great proportion of the hundred of Wormelow, on the south, is a light *Sand*. Deep beds of *Gravel* are occasionally

met with in the vicinity of Hereford; and the sub-soil of several of the hills are of siliceous grit. *Fuller's Earth* is sometimes dug near Stoke; and red and yellow *Ochres*, with *Tobacco-pipe Clay*, are found in small quantities in different parts of the county. *Iron Ore* has been met with in the parts bordering on Gloucestershire, but none has been dug of late years; though, from the considerable quantities that have been discovered, imperfectly smelted, and from the remains of hand-blomaries that have also been found, it has been thought that some iron-works were established here as early as the Roman times.

Herefordshire is particularly famous as a CYDER country; yet this, though a favorite object of its husbandry, is by means the only one: cattle, sheep, swine, corn, hops, &c. have equally strong claims on the attention of the farmer. Plantations of fruit-trees are found in every aspect, and "on soil of every quality, and under every culture. The most approved site is that which is open to the south-east, and sheltered in other points, but particularly in the opposite direction; for though Virgil, and the other Roman poets, celebrate the west wind as the most genial in Italy, and Philips, in his Poem on Cyder, recommend the same aspect;

———The west, whose gentle warmth
Discloses well the earth's all-teeming womb,
Invigorating tender seeds; whose breath
Nurtures the orange and the citron groves,
Hesperian fruits, and wafts their odours sweet
Wide thro' the air, and distant shores perfumes;

it is an unquestionable fact, that the westerly winds, and therefore a westerly exposure, are particularly unfavorable to the fruit-trees of Herefordshire: they are more cold, as blowing over a considerable tract of the Welsh mountains, which are often covered with snow even late in the Spring; and they are more unkind, because from that point proceeds a much more than equal proportion of those fogs, and blue mists, which Dr. Beale calls "the disgusts of the Black Mountain."*

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* Duncumb's Herefordshire, Vol. I. p. 187.

The period at which the cultivation of ORCHARDS became a pre-eminent branch of the rural economy of England, appears to have been early in the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the example of a person named Harris, the King's fruiterer, who had occasioned the fields and environs of about thirty towns and villages in Kent, to be planted with fruit-trees, extended this species of culture to several parts of the kingdom.* The particular era, however, when the plantations of Herefordshire acquired the peculiar eminence which they yet retain, was the reign of Charles the First, when, by the spirited exertions of Lord Scudamore, of Holm-Lacy, and other gentlemen of the county, Herefordshire became, 'in a manner, one entire orchard.†

An *Orchard* is generally raised with most success, and at least expense, in a hop-yard; the ground under this description of culture being always well tilled and manured, as well as fenced against every kind of cattle. The rows should extend from north to south, as in that direction each part of every tree will receive the most equal portions of light and heat: the distance between each row, as well as the space between each tree, must depend on the situation and soil. When the situation is high, and exposed, the trees should be closely planted, to afford each other protection; and when the latter is poor and shallow, their growth will, of course, be less luxuriant, and they will consequently require less room: but in low and sheltered situations, and in deep and rich soils, wider intervals should be allowed. In the former instances, twelve yards between each row, and six between each tree, are sufficient: in the latter, twenty-four yards between each row, and eight between each tree, will not be too much. Pruning is not in general use; the most approved method is, that of rendering thin, and pervious to the light, the points of the external branches, so that the internal parts of the tree may not be wholly shaded by the external parts: large branches should rarely or never be amputated. As the richness and flavour of the fruit depends greatly on the heat of the atmosphere it matures in, the piercing winds from the east,
and

* Evelyn's *Pomona*, fol. 1679.

† *Ibid.*

and other ungenial quarters, should be broken off by high screens of wood, and every method employed to preserve the kindling warmth imparted by the rays of the sun.

“The soil best adapted to most kinds of apples, is a deep and rich loam, when under the culture of the plough; on this the trees grow with the greatest luxuriance, and produce the richest fruit. Some trees, however, the *stire* and golden pippin in particular, form exceptions to this general rule, and flourish most in a hot and shallow soil, upon a lime or sand-stone. The best sorts of pear trees also prefer the rich loam; but inferior kinds will even flourish where the soil will scarcely produce herbage.

“The *Apple Trees* are divided into *Old* and *New* sorts; each class comprises some called *Kernel Fruits*; that is, the fruit growing on its own native roots, as a distinction from those produced by the operation of grafting. The old sorts are the more valuable, and are those which have been long introduced; as the *Stire*, *Golden-pippin*, *Hagloe Crab*, several varieties of the *Harvey*, the *Brandy-apple*, *Redstreak*, *Woodcock*, *Moyle*, *Gennet-moyle*, *Red*, *White*, and *Yellow Musks*, *Pauson*, *Foxwhelp*, *loan* and *old Pearmains*, *Dymock-red*, *Ten-commandments*, &c. Some of these names are descriptive of the fruit; and others are derived from the places where they have been found in abundance. The modern varieties derive their appellations from such capricious and various causes, that a correct list cannot be composed: in some instances, the same fruit bears a different name even in the same parish.* In selecting
fruits

* The principal of these APPLES are thus described by Mr. Marshall, in his *Observations on the Management of Orchards and Fruit Liquor in Herefordshire*, annexed to his second volume of the *Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*.

“The *Stire* stands first in estimation. The fruit of this variety is somewhat below the middle size; the form rather flat; the color, a pale yellowish white, with sometimes a faint blush on one side; the flesh tolerably firm; the flavour, when fully ripe, fine. The cyder that is produced from it, in a soil that is adapted to it, is rich, highly flavoured, and of a good body: its price frequently four-fold that of common sale cyder.
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fruits for cultivation, respect should be paid both to the soil and situation of the intended orchard: where both are favorable, no restraint is necessary; but in cold situations, and unkind soils, the most early fruits are obviously those which may be expected to acquire maturity.

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The thin lime-stone soils on the margin of the Forest of Dean, are said to produce the richest *stire cyder*. The tree which bears this apple is of a singular growth; remarkably ‘besom-headed,’ throwing out numerous straight, luxuriant upward shoots, from the crown; taking the form of a willow pollard; running much to wood; and in deep soils, growing to a great size before it becomes fruitful.

“The *Hagloe Crab* is at present next in esteem. This variety is traceable to the original seedling: it was produced about seventy years ago, in a nursery, among other stocks raised from the seed, by Mr. Bellamy, of Hagloe, in Gloucestershire, grandfather to the present Mr. Bellamy, near Ross, in Herefordshire, who draws from trees grafted with scions from this parent stock, a liquor, which, for richness, flavour, and price on the spot, exceeds, perhaps, every other fruit liquor which Nature and art have produced. He has been offered sixty guineas for a hog-head, about 110 gallons, of this liquor; and this, without freight, duty, or even a mile of carriage to enhance its original price. This fruit, while growing, is nearly white; when fully ripe, it has a yellowish cast; sometimes freckled with red on one side, like the common white crab. The size, about that of the *stire apple*; but the form more oblong. The flesh, remarkably soft and woolly, yet not dry, being furnished with a sheer, but, when fully ripe, sweet juice; which, however, is much smaller, in proportion to the quantity of fibrous matter, than that of most other apples. The flavor, when ripe, resembles that of the *Cashew apple* of the West Indies; and what is remarkable, the texture of the flesh is not unsimilar to the pulp of that fruit. The *Cyder*, notwithstanding the sheerness of the juice, is, when properly manufactured, singularly rich, and, notwithstanding the faint smell of the apple, is highly flavoured; and, what is equally remarkable, the liquor is of the highest color, notwithstanding the paleness of the fruit.

“The *Golden Pippen* is in high estimation as a cyder apple, and may rank as the third of this district. It is more generally known than the *Hagloe crab*; and at public market, its liquor, I believe, is generally next in price to that of the *stire apple*.

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“The colors of good cyder-fruits, are red and yellow: the color to be avoided is green, as affording liquor of the harshest, and generally of the poorest quality; the pulp should be yellow, and the taste astringent. Apples of a small size, *ceteris paribus*, are always to be preferred to those of a larger, in order that the rind and kernel, in which principally consists the strength and flavour of the liquor, may bear the greatest proportion to the pulp, which affords the weakest and most watery juice.”*

The apple and pear trees which form the orchards of Herefordshire, can only be considered as the productions of art; the one being a variety of the *pyrus malus*, or crab; and the other derived from the *pyrus communis*, or common wild pear: as such, neither of them are noticed by Linnæus. The native wild crab is subject to considerable diversity in the appearance of its leaves, and in the color, shape, and flavour of its fruit: by selecting and cultivating the fairest and the best of these, all our valuable varieties have been produced, and by repeated propagation, have been preserved for a time:

“The *Old Redstreak* is yet in being; a few old trees are still remaining. The fruit small, roundish, of a pale yellow ground, with numerous faint red streaks; the flesh firm, full of juice, and, when ripe, finely flavoured; a palatable eating apple. Little, if any, genuine redstreak cyder is now made: it never was, I believe, equal to that of either of the preceding apples. The tree of this apple is of singularly awkward growth; crooked, reclining, ragged, and unsightly.

“The *Woodcock* is another favorite old cyder fruit, but is now going off: many old trees, however, are still left in the country. The fruit is much larger than any of the preceding sorts; above the middle size; the form somewhat oblong, with a long stalk, set on in a peculiar manner, feigned to resemble the woodcock’s beak; hence the name. Its color is that of the redstreak, with the addition of some dark blood-red streaks on one side. The flesh remarkably fine; equally fit for culinary purposes and for cyder. The tree large, and strongly featured, forming large boughs, in the pear-tree manner.

“The *Pauson* is a middle-sized green apple. The *Dymock-red*, middle-sized, red color. The *Foxwhelp* is a large red apple. All of them are in good estimation for cyder.”

* Duncumb’s Collections, Vol. I. p. 187—192.

a time:* several of these artificial varieties have been brought from Normandy, and other parts of the Continent.†

In the management of the fruit, and subsequent *Manufacture of Cyder*, considerable variations occur, accordingly as the makers are more or less skilful. Independently of the qualities of the apple, the superior flavour, and richness of the liquor, greatly depends on the judicious nature of the operations. The juice of the pulp alone is inadequate to make a good and generous cyder; the qualities

* It results from this statement, to use the words of Mr. Marshall, "that the business of the Improvers of Fruit, is to catch at SUPERIOR ACCIDENTAL VARIETIES; and having raised them by CULTIVATION, to the highest degree of perfection they are capable of, to preserve them in that state by ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION.

"The law of Nature, however," continues this gentleman, "though it suffers man to improve the fruits which are given us, appears to have set bounds to his art, and to have numbered the years of *his* creation. Artificial propagation cannot preserve the varieties in perpetuity: a time arrives, when they can be no longer propagated with success. All the old fruits which raised the fame of the liquors of this county are now lost, or are so far on the decline, as to be deemed irrecoverable. The *Redstreak* is given up; the celebrated *Stire Apple* is going off: and the *Squash Pear*, which has probably furnished this country with more *Champaign* than was ever imported into it, can no longer be got to flourish: the stocks canker, and are unproductive.

"The DURATION OF VARIETIES may, however, depend much upon management: for, although Nature wills, that the same wood, or the same set of sap vessels, (for the wood, which is produced by grafting, is, in reality, no more than a protrusion of the graft, *an extension of the original stock*,) shall, in time, lose its fecundity; yet it is probable that the same art which establishes a variety, may shorten or prolong its duration. Much may depend upon the STOCK employed in grafting, and much upon the age of the tree, and the age of the wood, from which the GRAFT is taken: or, perhaps, the CANCKER, which seems to be the natural destroyer of varieties, may be checked." *Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, &c. Vol. II. p. 212, 213.*

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† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 186.

lities of the kernel are wanting, to add flavour; and those of the rind, to give color; and hence it is necessary, that the juices of both these should be perfectly expressed. The apples should also be properly separated when gathered: the time for gathering them is generally about the middle of October; but varies according to the season, and sort of the fruit. The prevailing practice of this county, in *gathering*, is to beat the trees with long, slender poles, called *polting lugs*; and, as the apples fall, women and children are employed to collect them into baskets. This mode of gathering is defective; inasmuch as both ripe and unripe fruits are intermixed,

The decay of the oldest and most valuable fruits in Herefordshire, which is here spoken of, is supposed, by Mr. Duncumb, to have been occasioned by the inattention generated by the calamities of the reign of Charles the Second, which suspended the operations of industry, and so weaned the mind from its accustomed pursuits, that it could not readily return to them, and always with unwillingness. The public spirit of the present age has, however, not been indifferent on this occasion; and within the last twenty years, more attention has been paid to the renovation of the old varieties, or to the introduction of others equally good, than was bestowed on the same objects during a century preceding.

“Grafting, as being most expeditious, has been most frequently attempted; but it is presumed, that no mode of grafting, hitherto practised, has been found adequate to the purpose: the shoots being unavoidably taken from old trees, flourish a few years from the vigor of the crab-stock, then canker, and relapse into all the infirmities of the parent tree. On this principle, the renovation of the old fruits appears impracticable. The opinion of the best informed planters is, that the seeds of the old fruits should be sown, and the most strong and healthy plants selected for cultivation, and a supply of grafts. This experiment has been adopted on a large scale by several planters, and has hitherto promised the fullest success; and has further the sanction of that period (the time of James the First, and beginning of the reign of his successor) in which *orcharding*, if the expression be allowable, received particular attention. The method is now becoming more and more general; and the most experienced planters consider it as the best, if not the only, expedient, to preserve our provincial celebrity.” *Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 190—192.*

mixed, and this mixture is detrimental to the production of good cyder, which requires all the fruit to be of a due degree of ripeness. In some orchards, therefore, two gatherings are made: the first, when the apples begin spontaneously to fall, which is a sure criterion of ripeness; and again, when those that were left green on the boughs become sufficiently matured. In the former, and defective mode of gathering, the whole of the fruit collected, is laid together in large heaps, exposed to the weather, in order to correct the crudity of the unripe fruit: this method, though partly successful, is still injurious; as the richest and finest of the fruit too frequently becomes rotten. The best mode of remedying the evil, would be to separate the fruits by hand; and in some few places, the brown, as well as the black rotten, is carefully picked out, and even the tainted or faulty parts of an apple cut away; the sound parts only being suffered to go to the mill.

The fruits "whose rind or pulp are tinged with green, or red, without a mixture of yellow, should be carefully sorted from such as are yellow, or yellow intermixed with red: the latter kinds are alone capable of making fine cyder. Each kind should be *ground* separately, or mixed with such only as become ripe at the same time; but it is from the former practice, that fine cyders, of different flavours and degrees of strength, are best obtained from the same orchard; the liquors being mixed after they are made. The practice of mixing different varieties of fruit is, however, often found eligible; for it is less difficult to find the requisite quantities of richness, astringency, and flavour, in three varieties of fruit than in one; and hence, cyders composed of the juices of mixed fruits, generally succeed with greater certainty than those made with one kind."

In *grinding*, the fruit should be reduced, as nearly as possible, to a uniform consistence, so that the rind and kernels are scarcely discoverable from the general mass; and the air should be allowed free access during the whole operation. The CYDER MILL consists of a stone wheel, provincially a 'runner,' somewhat in the shape of a corn-mill stone, running on its edge in a circular stone trough, provincially, 'the chace.' The size of the runner varies from two feet

feet and a half to four feet and a half in diameter; and from nine inches to twelve in thickness: its weight is from one to two tons. The bottom of the chace is somewhat wider than the runner, that the latter may run freely. Its inner side rises perpendicularly; but the outer side spreads so as to make the top of the trough about six or eight inches wider than the bottom, on purpose to give freedom to the runner, and room to scatter the fruit; to stir it up while grinding, and to take out the ground matter: its depth is nine or ten inches.

The outer rim of the trough is three or four inches wide; and the diameter of the inner circle, which the trough circumscribes, from four and a half to five feet, according to the size of the mill. The entire bed of a middle-sized mill, is about nine, ten or twelve feet in diameter; the whole being composed of two, three or four stones, cramped together as one; and worked, or at least finished, after they are cramped together. The stones are mostly a dark reddish grit, raised in the Forest of Dean: the bed of the mill is formed, and the trough partly hollowed, at the quarry; leaving a few inches at the edge of each stone, uncut out, as a bond to prevent its breaking in carriage. Much depends on the quality of the stone: it ought not to be calcareous, either in whole or in part, as the acid of the liquor would corrode it.

The runner is moved by means of an axle passing through the centre, with a long arm reaching without the bed of the mill, for a horse to draw by; and with a short one passing to an upright swivel, turning upon a pivot in the centre of the stone, and steadied at the top by entering a bearing of the floor above. An iron bolt, with a large head, passes through an eye in the lower part of the swivel, into the end of the inner arm of the axis. Thus the requisite double motion is obtained, and the stone kept perfectly upright, which it ought to be, with great simplicity, and without stress on any part of the machine.

On the inner arm of the axis, about a foot from the runner, is generally fixed a cogged wheel, working in a circle of cogs, fixed upon the bed of the mill. The use of these wheels is to prevent the runner from sliding, to which it is liable, when the mill is full; the

fruit, when nearly ground, rising up in a body before the stone: besides, by assisting the rotatory motion of the stone, it renders the work more easy to the horse. The mill is so situated, as to leave a horse path, about three feet wide, between the bed and the walls of the mill-house; so that a moderate sized mill, with its horse-path, takes up a space of fourteen or fifteen feet every way.*

This kind of cyder-mill is almost peculiar to Herefordshire, though the best in use: it is, however, still imperfect; as the acting parts of the machine, or those which ought to bruise the rind, and crush the kernels, viz. the face of the roller, and the bottom of the trough, are scarcely ever sufficiently adjusted to each other to effect these purposes with any degree of certainty. "Instead of being worked over, and fitted nicely to each other, with the square and chissel, they are hewn over with the stone-mason's pick only; leaving holes, and protuberances, which would save even horse-beans from the pressure, much more the kernels of fruit, which are hard, slippery, and exceedingly difficult to fix, escaping pressure in a peculiar manner, and with singular alertness."†

The best method of grinding the fruit, is to scatter it gradually into the trough. A mill of the general dimensions, is equal to the complete grinding of a hogshead, or a hogshead and a half, in one day. The horse is driven by a woman, or more frequently by a girl, who stirs up the fruit as it is ground; and this latter operation is, or should be, continued till the entire substance of the fruit is reduced to a uniform pap, or mucilage. The quantity of apples sufficient to fill the provincial hogshead of 110 gallons, varies from twenty-four to thirty bushels.

In the management of the reduced fruit, or *Must*, as the *Pomage* is here termed, the common practice is to press it immediately from the mill; but more expert managers suffer it to remain about twenty-four hours before it is taken to the *Press*; "the principle of which is the same as that of the packing-press, or napkin-press, a screw working with a square frame. The sizes of the presses are various:

* Marshall's Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 274—278.

† Ibid.

various: the bed, or bottom, is about five feet square, of strong plank, or of stone, placed on sleepers about a foot from the ground-floor; or raised on mason-work, about two or three feet high. On each side rises a strong upright cheek, provincially a '*sister*;' and across the top, or upper surface, which is level with the chamber-floor, lies a nut of dimensions suitable to the size of the screw, which is usually about ten inches in diameter. The foot of the screw is square, with cross holes for inserting a lever; or has otherwise a wheel fixed round it for the same purpose. A sinker, provincially the '*bridge*,' is hung beneath it, and is steadied by the cheeks, in the usual manner. The bed, or floor, of the press, which was formerly covered with lead, but is now composed entirely of wood or stone, has a channel cut a few inches within its outer edges, to catch the liquor as it is expressed, and convey it to a lip, formed by a projection on that side of the bed opposite to the mill, under which lip, a stone trough, or wooden vessel, is sunk within the ground, when the bed is fixed low, to receive the liquor.

"The press is worked with levers of different lengths: first, a short one; next, one of a moderate size, by hand: and lastly, with a strong bar, eight or nine feet long, by means of a species of capstan, provincially a '*windlass*;' this is an upright post, about six inches in diameter, with a pike, or pivot, at either end; one of them being in the ground-floor, the other in a bearing of the chamber. From the upper part of this post passes a very strong rope, with an eye at the end, to receive the end of the bar, which has a cross-pin, or shoulder, to prevent the rope from slipping: in the lower part of the post, about three feet from the ground, is one or more holes for a lever, or levers. By these means an excessive purchase is obtained."*

In *pressing*, the pomage is piled up in layers from the bottom of the press, between hair-cloths of a loose texture, the dimensions of every layer being lessened as the pile rises, which, when finished, appears like the lower frustum of a pyramid, being somewhat

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considerably

* Marshall, Vol. II. p. 278—280.

considerably wider at the bottom than at the top. "The pressing is done leisurely, that the liquor may draw off the clearer, and to give the assistant time to keep the reservoir free: the first runnings come off foul and muddy; but the last, especially of perry, will be clear, and as fine, as if filtered through paper: a sweet palatable beverage." The residuum may be reduced to almost any degree of dryness, by increasing the number of hands employed in working the press. The first residue is commonly thrown aside as offal, or returned designedly *under-pressed* to the mill, to be '*washed*,' or, in other words, to be re-ground for family drink: the residue of three hogsheads of cyder yields about one hogshead of this secondary liquor. Philips, in his admirable Poem on Cyder, describes this practice in the following words:

Some, when the press, by utmost vigor screw'd,
Has drain'd the pulpos mass, regale their swine
With the dry refuse; thou, more wise, shalt steep
Thy husks in water, and again employ
The pond'rous engine. Water will imbibe
The small remains of spirit, and acquire
A vinous flavor: this the peasants blithe
Will quaff, and whistle, as their tinkling team
They drive, and sing of Fusca's radiant eyes,
Pleas'd with the medley draught.—

Those, however, who excel in the art of cyder-making, continue to express the juice as long as a single drop can be forced from the pomage; and afterwards re-grind it with some of the first runnings of the liquor, so as to have as much of the juice of the rinds and kernels, as can possibly be obtained.

In the prevailing practice of Herefordshire, the liquor is '*tunned*,' or, in other words, conveyed into hogsheads, or larger casks, immediately from the press. The casks are generally filled to the bung hole; but the more judicious managers leave about a '*pailful ullage*,' more or less, in proportion to the ripeness of the fruit. The period of the commencement of the *fermentation* is uncertain, as no preparation, or *ferment*, whatever, is made in the common routine of practice to bring it on: it therefore wholly depends on the quality of the liquor, and the state of the atmosphere.

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The continuance of the *vinous*, or, more accurately speaking, of the first stage of fermentation to which the liquor is subject, is not less uncertain than its commencement, but is generally completed in a few days; though, if the liquor has been previously agitated in any considerable degree, it will frequently pass through it on the same day. By this operation, some of the impurities with which the liquor, in its raw state, is charged, are thrown up on the surface; but most of them sink to the bottom. The bright and clear liquor is then drawn off by a process termed *racking*: the proper juncture of doing this is contested; but the prevailing idea seems to assign it to the critical time between the subsiding of the foulness, caused by the fermentation in the body of the liquor, and the sinking of the impurities that have been thrown up to the surface, and which not unfrequently takes place almost immediately after the fermentation ceases. The manufacturers of *sweet cyder* use expedients to check, or prevent, the vinous fermentation altogether.

“The *method of racking*, is to draw off the clearer liquor at a tap fixed above the lees, and to put it immediately into a fresh cask, duly seasoned. When it begins to run foul, the tap is stopped, and the remainder is filtered through flannel or canvas bags; or, for want of these, through a hair cloth; the four corners being hung upon a hook. The filtered liquor, which ought to drop fine from the bag, is added to the rest, from which it differs in three notable qualities: it is higher colored than that which has not been mixed with the lees; it is no longer prone to fermentation; but, on the contrary, is found to check that of the liquor thrown off; and if it afterwards loses its brightness, it is difficult to be recovered. The casks are not filled up, but left with about a pailful *ullage*, so that the surface of the liquor can just be touched with the finger.”* The casks are then suffered to remain in the open air till about the end of March, when they are completely filled, and the bungs, which have hitherto been only lightly placed in their situations, are tightly fixed.

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Once

* Marshall's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 322

Once racking is not always sufficient to the production of good cyder; though, in the general method of practice, it is seldom racked oftener. Indeed, the necessity of its being a second time drawn off into fresh casks, wholly depends on the state of the liquor, which, if it begins a second time to ferment in a strong or violent degree, is again drawn off; but if the subsequent fermentation, or '*fretting*,' as it is locally termed, is moderate only, it is still suffered to remain in the same cask. Where the ordinary rackings are insufficient to make the liquor '*lie quiet*,' and which is sometimes the case when the first fermentation has been improperly checked, an expedient, called '*Stumming the Casks*,' is resorted to: this consists in fumigating the casks with sulphur, the fumes of which have the property of checking the fretting of the liquor that may be afterwards poured in.* Under one or two modes of management, the liquor is suffered to ferment in open vessels, as large tubs, or broad shallow vats.

Cyders manufactured from good fruit, will retain a considerable proportion of their sweetness at the end of three or four years; but it is then gradually dissipated. The best time for '*bottling cyder*,' is when it is from eighteen months to two years old; or more properly, when it has acquired its highest brightness and flavour in the cask, whether that happens in a longer or a shorter time. When bottled in this state, it may be kept to almost any age,

* The method of stumming is as follows: "Matches, made of thick linen cloth, about ten inches long, and an inch broad, thickly coated with brimstone about eight inches of their length, being prepared, and the cask properly seasoned; every vent is tightly stopped, except the bung-hole; a match kindled, lowered down into the cask, and held, by the end undipped, until it be well lighted, and the bung be driven in, thus suspending the lighted match within the cask. Having burnt so long as the sustained air will supply the fire, the match dies, the bung is raised, the remnant of the match drawn out, and the cask suffered to remain before the liquor be put into it, some two or three hours, more or less, according to the degree of force required. For a few days the liquor retains a sulphureous flavour; which, however, in a short time vanishes; and no ill effect, I understand, is found to follow the operation." *Marshall's Gloucestershire.*

age, if perfectly secured from the air by the tightness of the cork. The best time for bottling is in cool weather, as the liquor is then less likely again to ferment.

In making cyder for the common drink of the farm-house, the flavour is only a secondary object of consideration, the great object being to obtain a large quantity at a small expense. "In this case, the apples are usually ground as soon as they become moderately ripe; and the juice is either racked off once, as soon as it becomes tolerably clear, or more frequently conveyed at once from the press to the cellar: a violent fermentation then commences, and continues till nearly the whole of the saccharine part is decomposed: the casks are filled up, and stopped early in the ensuing spring, sometimes sooner, and no further attention is given: the liquor thus managed, is generally harsh and rough."*

The culture of the *Pear-Tree*, and the management of *Perry*, differ so little from those of the apple-tree and its produce, that the same general rules are applicable to both. The pear-tree is, however, most successfully propagated on stocks of its own species, and lives much longer than the apple. Like the latter, it grows with the greatest luxuriance in strong and deep soils, and in these the finest liquor is produced from it; but it will flourish in every soil where it is not incommoded with water; and might, probably, be cultivated in almost every part of England, with nearly as much success as in this county, and as good perry obtained, if the fruit were ground in a similar mill, and equal attention given during the process of manufacture. In planting pear-trees, a wider interval should be allowed between them than is necessary for the apple-tree: in the most closely-planted orchards, the rows should not be less than eighteen yards distant, nor the trees be nearer to each other than eight or nine yards: when the ground is to remain under tillage, it is better to allow even twenty-five or thirty yards between the rows. As in cyder, the fruit which is ground together, should be as uniformly ripe as possible: and few kinds of pears are found to improve by being kept after they have fallen

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* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 196.

through ripeness from the trees. Perry will not always become fine so readily as cyder: when it does not, an ounce and a half, or two ounces, of dissolved isinglass, are applied in the usual manner, to a cask of 110 gallons. The *Pears* held most in estimation, are the *Squash*, so called from the tenderness of its pulp; the *Old-field*, from having grown as a seedling in a field of that name; the *Huff-cap*, from the quantity of fixed air contained in its liquor; the *Bar-land*, from a field in the parish of Bosbury, called the *Bare-lands*; the *Sack-pear*, from its richness; and the *Red-pear*, from its color: of inferior sorts, the *Long-land* is the most valuable.

The principal markets for the fruit liquors of Herefordshire, are London and Bristol, from which ports great quantities are sent to Ireland, to the East and West Indies, and to other foreign markets in bottles. The principal part of the liquors is bought immediately from the press by the country dealers who live within the district, and in general prefer to have it in that state, that the fermentation, and subsequent management, may take place under their own inspection. The price of the common cyder is generally fixed by a meeting of the dealers at Hereford Fair, on the twentieth of October annually, and on the average of years, varies from one pound five shillings to two guineas per hogshead.* The *stire cyder* is seldom sold from the press; the dealers either buy the fruit, or the growers work their own liquor: its value, even at the press, is from 5*l.* to 15*l.* an hogshead.

The annual produce of the fruit greatly varies: in a plentiful year it is almost beyond conception, as the trees are then loaded even to excess, and frequently break under the weight of the apples: at these times, indeed, the branches are generally obliged to be supported on props or forked poles. This kind of excessive fruitage, however, seldom occurs more than once in four years; the year immediately succeeding, is mostly unproductive, unless the season should be very remarkably fine: what may be named a full fruitage, occurs, perhaps, once in every three years. In some of these years of abundance, twenty hogsheads of cyder have been made from

* Marshall,

from the produce of a single acre of orchard ground. The orchards are of various sizes; some of them contain from thirty to forty acres: the soil of the orchards is generally kept under tillage. The apple trees suffer great injury from the *mistletoe*, which creeping over the branches, and deriving its whole nourishment from the parent tree, deprives it of its juices; thus producing a premature old age and decay. Under a more judicious management, the ravages of this parasitical plant might be entirely prevented; as it may readily be cleared from the trees by hooks in frosty weather; a practice that is observed by a few individuals.

The Herefordshire *Cattle* are regarded, by the best informed judges, as the most superior breed in this Island. The other breeds which nearly resemble them, are those of Devonshire and Sussex; and of the Vale of Pickering, in Yorkshire. They are of the middle-horned kind; with a large and athletic form; and unusually sleek in appearance, from the bright and silky nature of the coating. The prevailing color is a reddish brown, with white and bald faces. The heifers fat kindly at an early age; and the calves also are much in repute for this quality. The rearing of oxen for agricultural purposes is a very general practice; nearly half the ploughing of the whole county is performed by them; and they are equally employed in the labors of the harvest. In those parts where their exertions are required on hard roads, they are shod with iron. When they have been worked about five or six years, they are generally sold, mostly in good condition, to the graziers of Buckinghamshire, and other adjacent counties, who still further improve them for the consumption of the markets of the metropolis. The general time of selling them is at Hereford Fair, where a thousand or fifteen hundred head of cattle are exposed for sale annually. The *Dairy* produce is principally confined to the making of cheese for home use, excepting in the vicinity of Bromyard, where considerable quantities are made for the Hereford market.

The Herefordshire breed of *Sheep* is almost equally as celebrated as that of its cattle: the name by which they are distinguished is the *Ryeland*, from a district in the southern part of the county, where the most superior varieties are fed. "They are small, white-faced,

faced, and hornless; the ewes weighing from nine to twelve and fourteen pounds the quarter; the wethers, or 'wedders,' from twelve to sixteen and eighteen pounds. In symmetry of shape, and flavour of their meat, they are superior to most flocks in England; and in the quality of their wool, they are wholly unrivalled. They lamb in February and March; but during winter, and particularly in time of lambing, the store flocks are generally confined by night in a covered building, provincially termed a *cot*; in which they are fed sometimes with hay, or barley-straw, but much more frequently with peas-halm. Some breeders accustom them to the *cot* only in very severe weather, and in lambing time.* The manure made from the peas-halm is excellent, and in large quantities; whilst the practice of *cotting* materially contributes to the health of the animal, and to the fineness of its fleece. The quantity shorn from each, does not average more than two pounds; but the quality is such as almost rivals that imported from Spain: the price is sometimes as high as thirty-three shillings the stone of $12\frac{1}{2}$ lb. untrinded; when coarse wool is only worth ten or twelve shillings. A cross has been made between the Ryeland and new Leicester sorts; to the advantage of the breeder, at least on good land; but to the detriment of the wool. The preservation of the original fineness of this staple commodity, or its improvement, are objects worthy of national attention: a cross between the Ryeland and real Spanish breeds, seems the most probable mode of effecting them, and many spirited breeders are now making the experiment. Leominster has been most usually celebrated as famous for this wool; but possibly it might have been the place of its sale, rather than of its growth; as the rich pastures in that vicinity, and elsewhere, are generally supposed to have the effect of deteriorating the wool. Philips, the poet, writes thus:

— Can the fleece
 Bœtic, or finest Tarentine, compare
 With Lemster's silken wool?

Camden

* This practice was derived from the Flemings, and introduced into England about the year 1660. *Systema Agricult. fol. Lond.* 1668.

Camden terms it, 'Lem'ster ore:' and Drayton asks

Where lives the man so dull, on Britain's furthest shore,
To whom did never sound the name of Lemster Ore?
That with the silkworm's web for smallness doth compare.

Dyer, also, thus notices it in his poem on this subject:

And beauteous Albion (since great Edgar chac'd
The prowling wolf) with many a lock appears
Of silky lustre: chief, Siluria, thine:
Thine, *Vaga*, favored stream, from sheep minute
On Cambria bred; a pound o'erweighs a fleece."*

The cultivation of *Hops*† forms a very considerable branch of the rural economy of Herefordshire, and is still increasing, particularly in the parts bordering on Worcestershire. They appear to have been introduced into this county soon after they were imported into England about the commencement of the sixteenth century; and by the middle of the following century, the cultivators had greatly extended their plantations, and become considerably more numerous. The hops are of two kinds, *White* and *Red*; but each kind has several varieties: the white hops are the most delicate, and have the preference with the buyers; though the red kinds are more hardy, and impart a stronger quality in brewing. The best soils for hops in this county is a rich dry loam, or gravel; the clayey soils being considered as too cold. The best aspect for a plantation, or '*Hop-Yard*,' is the south-east; and particular care is taken to secure it from the west, and south-west winds; as the

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 179, 180.

† The *Hop-plant* is recorded to have been introduced into this country in the year 1524; but the little estimation in which it was held for some years afterwards, was so remarkably low, that in 1528, a petition to restrain its use was presented to Parliament; and in that petition it was denominated a "*most pernicious and wicked weed*." Though thus styled at that period, it became a great favorite before the century expired; and in 1603, an act was passed to prevent the hops being adulterated.

the blights, and honey-dews, mostly come from those quarters: should, however, the seasons prove favorable, the aspect seems of little importance. In making a new plantation, meadow, or old pasture land is preferred to arable. When the site is fixed on, in the most approved practice, the land is twice ploughed between November and Christmas, and the sward buried at a sufficient depth to cause it to rot: the top-mould being thus exposed to the atmosphere, becomes in some degree pulverized, and is afterwards cross-harrowed, and prepared for the reception of the '*sets*,' which consist of cuttings from the old stocks, about the respective lengths of four inches. Care is taken that each cutting shall have two or three *joints*; from one or other of which, a shoot is almost certain. The time of planting is about the beginning of April: in this operation two modes are pursued. In what are called the *plough hop-lands*, the sets are planted in parallel rows, a distance of from six to nine feet being left between each row, according to the nature of the soil; and a space, varying from three to four feet between the sets in the same row. In the hop-yards worked by *hand*, the sets are disposed differently, so that every three of them being connected by an imaginary line, appear to form an equilateral triangle: in this mode every set is about five feet, or five feet and a half, the more usual distance, from each other.

When the sets are planted, a hole, from eight to twelve inches square, is dug, and filled with some of the finest mould, which is beat tightly down with a hammer: in the centre of this, "one set is placed in a perpendicular direction, and round it three or four others are planted, sloping outwards at the bottom, but nearly meeting at the top; so that when the *wires*, or vines, spring up, they may not be too far separated to run up the poles. This done, the sets are covered an inch deep with some firm light mould, which is generally pressed closely round them with the hand."* Where the method of digging holes is not practised, the sets are planted within the circumference of an impression made in the ground with a round rammer. Near every *set of sets*, a stick, about

* Lodge's Introductory Sketches, &c. p. 37,

about two feet and a half long, is fixed firmly in the ground, so as to form with it an angle of about sixty degrees: round these sticks the wires, or bines, are twisted and tied, as soon as they have attained a sufficient height.

About the beginning of July, the ground is hoed to clear it from weeds, care being taken that the young shoots are not injured by this operation. In a month or six weeks afterwards, it is again hoed; and about Michaelmas, the mould is gathered into small hillocks round each set of shoots; a small cavity, or bason, provincially an '*eye*,' being left in the centre of each hillock. In another month, this cavity is filled up with fresh mould, and the hillocks, or '*tumps*,' completed for the first year, during which no hops are produced. The use of the tump, is to afford warmth and nourishment to the roots of the plants, and to throw off all superfluous water.

The business of the second, and of every succeeding year, commences about March or April, "by throwing down the hills with the hoe, and making the land even. The shoots are then cut off level with the surface with a sharp knife. The top of each bed of sets is afterwards covered with a small quantity of fine mould, raised into a pyramidal form, in order to point out where the stacks are, in case they should not all spring up at the time of pulling, which is sometimes the case. When the shoots again make their appearance above the ground, the *hop-poles* are '*pitched*' in holes made purposely to receive them; and when the bines are about twelve inches high, they are tied to the poles with rushes; but not too tight, the consequence of which would be a stoppage in the circulation of the sap: this business is generally performed by women, and is continually repeated, till the wires are above the reach of a person standing on the ground."*

Towards the latter end of May, or beginning of June, the ground is again hoed, and small hills, as before, made round the stocks;

* Clark's General View of the Agriculture of Herefordshire, p. 56. It is not unworthy of observation, that the hop-bine invariably turns from east to west with the sun; while the bear-bine, and kidney-bean, ascend in a contrary direction.

stocks; a bason or cavity being also left, as at first, in the centre, and afterwards filled up with fresh mould, to strengthen and invigorate the plants. About the middle or end of July, the plants blossom, and continue in that state for about three weeks; at the end of which time the *Hop* is formed, and in three weeks more arrives at maturity, when the *picking season* commences. When the hop is sufficiently ripe for this purpose, it assumes a brownish color, and yields a fragrant smell.

In picking hops, the bines are cut about a foot above the tumps, when the poles are pulled up, and carried to the *hop-cribs*; across which they are placed. The crib is a frame of wood, about ten or twelve feet long, and four wide, supported by four legs. In the inside is suspended a coarse *hurden* cloth, to receive the hops as they are picked off the poles, which is principally done by women and young girls, many of whom come from Wales for the purpose. As fast as the hops are picked, they are conveyed to the '*kilns*,' six or eight of which are not uncommon numbers for one estate, it being necessary that the hops should be dried quickly, otherwise they ferment, and lose some of their virtues. "The old Herefordshire kilns are built with a flue, or chimney, from eight to twelve feet high, at the top of which is what is commonly called a brick lantern, to distribute the heat in a regular manner to every part of the kiln. Lately, however, the Kentish kilns have been introduced, which open immediately from the fire-place like a very large hopper, by which means their surface can be extended to a dozen feet square, whilst the others are seldom made so large. Instead of a lantern, a large flat stone, called a *sparkling stone*, is placed horizontally about a foot from the top upon some iron bars, for the purpose of preventing the hops immediately over the fire from being scorched."^{*}

The methods of *drying hops* are guarded with some degree of secrecy; but the best mode appears to be, to spread the hops evenly upon the kiln, and about five inches deep, as a greater thickness prevents the steam from properly escaping, which, if not

* Lodge's Introductory Sketches, p. 46.

effected, the hops are invariably spoilt, by being *coddled*. The fire should be slow and steady; and the hops should be gently turned twice or thrice during the operation. When sufficiently dry, they are taken from the kiln, and the leaves being first separated from the stems, the hops are thrown up into heaps for three or four days to '*sweat*;' and as soon as they begin to '*give*' a little, or feel moist, they are put into bags for the market. The general mode of '*bagging*,' is to fasten the mouth of the hop-bag round a hoop placed in a hole made in an upper floor; and while the bag is filled by one man above, another descends into the bag, and treads the hops till the bag be full.* Hop-yards worked by hand, will, if properly manured, flourish during forty or fifty years; but the plough hop-lands are generally worn out in twenty or thirty years. About five hundred weight of hops is estimated as a fair produce from an acre containing 2000 poles. The length of each pole for the common sorts of hops, is from fifteen to eighteen feet; but those for the Farnham-white, the Kentish-grape, and the Red-vine, are generally three or four feet longer. As hops pay a considerable duty to the state, they have been placed under the excise; and every bag is obliged to be weighed and marked by a proper officer, before it is exposed for sale, under a large penalty. The varieties in the profits arising from hop-grounds are very great; as the produce is much affected by the fluctuations of the weather.

The principal part of the cultivated lands of Herefordshire are under tillage; but the produce, particularly of *Wheat*, though very considerable, is not correspondent to what ought to be grown on soils of such extreme fertility, and in situations so favorable. This is generally attributed to bad management, especially in the article of manure, which is seldom thrown on the land in sufficient quantities; probably from the difficulty of obtaining it through the great demand. The old routine, from which, however, many judicious farmers are now varying with success, is thus described by Mr. Duncumb.

“ A good

* Lodge's Introductory Sketches, p. 46.

“ A good fallow, or a clover ley, well worked, limed, and manured, produces, on an average, about twenty Winchester bushels of wheat per statute acre: in the following spring it is sown with peas, sometimes beans, after one ploughing, and with no manure; the produce is about fourteen bushels per acre: after two ploughings, and a partial dressing, or much more frequently, without any dressing whatever, it is again sown with wheat in October; and if this *brush* crop, as it is termed, produces somewhat more than half the quantity yielded by the fallow, the grower is satisfied. In the following spring, it is sown with barley and clover, after two ploughings, but still without manure; and, as might be expected from the exhausted state of the land, it generally affords a very inconsiderable crop. Sheep are turned on the young clover as soon as the barley is removed. Sometimes oats, or turnips, precede the barley on a small part of the land; and a few winter vetches have occasionally been introduced, but still without manure, or any other preparation than one or two ploughings. After mowing one crop of clover, it is fed with cattle in the spring following, and afterwards remains for seed. The fallowing then re-commences, and the same system is repeated. In this manner, one-third of this description of arable land is constantly under the culture of wheat; and that third, during its preparation for the seed, (which is sown almost invariably in the broad-cast manner,) is termed the *odd-mark*.”*

The lighter and more sandy lands are managed with greater skill than the clays, and their produce is proportionably increased. In the district about Ross, the land has been much improved by the use of lime as a manure, and now produces great quantities of barley, peas, wheat, &c. Here “ the general course of crops is as follows: wheat on a clover lay; turnips, barley, and seeds: after two years begin again; wheat, peas; turnips, barley, and seeds.” The heaviest crops of wheat are, generally speaking, produced in the vicinity of Hereford, and thence through the clays towards Ledbury: lands thus situated, are now rented at about eighteen shillings the

* Collections for Herefordshire, Vol. I. p. 174.

the statute acre; but abstracted from the pasture and meadow, the average rent of arable lands is not more than thirteen or fourteen shillings.*

Oats are grown in most abundance towards Wales, and on the eastern borders of the county. *Turnips* are grown under as bad a general system as the wheat: "they are often sown without manure on poor and foul lands, after one or two ploughings; and not half the quantity sown is even once hoed." Artificial *Grasses* are not yet sufficiently attended to; though, both with respect to these and to turnips, some improvements have been made within the last eight or ten years; chiefly through the means of an Agricultural Society established in this county in the year 1797. Some rich and luxuriant *Meadow* lands extend on the banks of the rivers Wye, Lugg, and Frome, and in some other parts. The practice of irrigation is inadequately resorted to; though the numerous rivulets that traverse the county offer uncommon facilities for the purpose. The size of *farms* is in general extensive; the rental of many of them is from 400l. to 500l. a year: the smaller ones are principally from fifty to one hundred pounds. The construction of many of the farm buildings is rude and unsubstantial: the lower

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part,

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 175. "The reaping of wheat is generally performed by companies of Welshmen from Cardiganshire, and other parts of South Wales; but it is now gradually becoming a branch of labor amongst our natives: their mode, which is that of *hack-ing* it close to the ground, possesses many advantages: it is more expeditious, and less expensive, as each laborer will reap one statute acre in a day, and that for two shillings, with provisions and liquor. Women and boys are engaged, at the expense of the farmer, to collect, bind, and stack the sheaves. The parties of ancient Britons vary in number, according to the extent of the work they have previously contracted for: to four or five men there generally belongs one horse, unincumbered with bridle or saddle; on this they ride in succession, taking little rest, and performing their journeys with great expedition. One of each party understands enough of the English language and roads, to act as interpreter and guide. They avoid, as much as they can, the society of our natives, are temperate, laborious, and grateful; easily pleased, and easily irritated." *Ibid.*

part, from one to two feet above the surface, being a stone wall, cemented only with mud or clay: on this a timber frame-work is erected, the vacancies in which are filled up by laths interwoven in a basket-like manner, and the whole plastered over and white-washed. The thick flags that are used to cover the roof instead of tiles, increase the weight without adding to the solidity; and the infirm cement at bottom soon mouldering by the weather, the whole fabric quickly becomes ruinous.*

Herefordshire may be properly termed a *Woodland* county; many species of trees growing up spontaneously, and becoming strong and vigorous in a very short period. The oak, elm, poplar, and willow, are particularly flourishing; but are seldom suffered to attain full maturity, unless on the estates of the nobility, and most eminent landed proprietors. Coppice-wood is extremely abundant, the sides and summits of many of the hills and upland grounds being covered with extensive plantations. The ash coppices are very valuable and numerous; those of alder are also plentiful in low and marshy situations: the former are regulated under a general system, and are cut about once in eight, ten, or twelve years, according to the uses for which the wood is designed. The principal part of the county is inclosed; and as most of the inclosures are bounded by hedge-rows, it has a very sylvan and woody appearance.

The *Roads* of Herefordshire have long been distinguished as proverbially bad: they are such, observes Mr. Marshall, "as one might expect to meet with in the marshes of Holland, or among the mountains of Switzerland." In various parts they are sunk far below the surface of the contiguous grounds, the floods having washed the soil away even to the bare rock; and in other places the steep ascents, and rapid declivities, render them almost impassable, especially in bad weather. They are also so narrow in some situations, that two carriages cannot pass each other without extreme danger; and in others, not at all. Even the chief turnpike roads very strongly partake of the same general character.

The

* Clark's General View, p. 53.

The principal *RIVERS* and *Streams* of this county are the Wye, the Lugg, the Munnow, the Arrow, the Frome, the Team, and the Leddon. The *WYE* has been often celebrated for the extremely picturesque and diversified scenery which adorns its meandering channel. Rising near the summit of the Plinlimmon Hills, in Montgomeryshire, it flows between the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, and afterwards enters Herefordshire near Clifford, the reputed birth-place of the ill-fated fair Rosamond. Winding to the east above Clifford Castle, it glides beautifully between orchards, meadows, and corn-fields, till it reaches the abrupt and commanding eminence of Mawbech Hill: thence darting suddenly through the bold arches of Bredwardine Bridge, it flows on to Hereford, through a more level, but still extremely pleasant country. From Hereford to Ross, its features occasionally assume greater boldness; though more frequently their aspect is placid; but at the latter town, wholly emerging from its late state of apparent repose, "it resumes the brightness and rapidity of its primitive character, as it forms the admired curve which the Church-yard of Ross commands. The celebrated spire of Ross Church, peeping over a noble row of elms, here fronts the ruined Castle of Wilton, beneath the arches of whose bridge, the Wye flows through a charming succession of meadows, encircling at last the lofty and well-wooded hill, crowned with the majestic fragments of Goodrich Castle, and opposed by the waving eminences of the Forest of Dean. The mighty pile, or peninsula, of Symond's Rock succeeds," round which the river flows in a circuit of seven miles; though the opposite points of the isthmus are only one mile asunder. Shortly afterwards, the Wye quits the county, and enters Monmouthshire at the New Wear.

This river is navigable to Hereford in barges of from eighteen to forty tons; but either a large or a small supply of water is equally fatal to the navigation. "The latter is experienced during the greater part of every dry summer, when shoals barely covered with the stream, occur very frequently: in winter, heavy rains, or snow dissolving on the river's banks, within the county, have the effect of gradually adding a few inches to the depth; but when

these rush into its channel, from the mountains of Brecknock and Radnorshire, they occasion an almost instantaneous overflow, and give it a force which defies all the ordinary means of resistance and controul.* By this impetuosity, considerable quantities of land are frequently removed from their situations on one side or the other, and new channels are thus formed in various places: to this impetuosity is also to be ascribed the want of a sufficient number of bridges to render the communication safe and easy between different parts of the county. In the whole extent of the Wye through Herefordshire, there was only one bridge (at Hereford) till the year 1597: an act of Parliament was then obtained for erecting a second at Wilton; and since that time two more have been added; the one at Bredwardine, by an act passed in the year 1762; and the other at Whitney, by an act passed in 1780. That at Bredwardine, which is built of brick, after sustaining some damage by the great flood of 1795, has continued to resist the impetuosity of the river; but that of Whitney has been already twice destroyed, and was again renewed on stone piers in the year 1802."†

The principal fish taken in the Wye, is the salmon, which is found in it at all times, but only in perfection between the months of December and August.‡ They were formerly more abundant than at present; so much so, indeed, that in the indentures of apprenticeship at Hereford, it was a clause, that the apprentice should not be compelled to live on them more frequently than two days in a week. Their passage up the river is now, however, so much obstructed by iron-works, that, unless the water is swelled far above its usual height, they cannot advance: this circumstance, together

* The greatest flood experienced of late years, was occasioned by a fall of rain, and the melting of snow, on the fifth of February, 1795, when the Wye rose fifteen feet within twenty-four hours, and did enormous damage through the whole county, destroying bridges, drowning cattle and sheep, sweeping off timber, &c.

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 159, 160.

‡ Fuller has asserted, but erroneously, that the Salmon of the Wye are in season all the year long.' *Worthies*, p. 34.

together with the illegal practice of taking them in cribs, have rendered them much less plentiful.

The river *Lugg* has its origin in Radnorshire, but enters Herefordshire on the north-west side, near Stapelton Castle: thence flowing in a south-east direction, it receives the *Pinsley* near Leominster; and afterwards inclining to the south, is increased by the waters of the *Arrow* and the *Frome*. Soon after its junction with the latter river, it falls into the Wye near the pleasant village of Mordisford. The district of country through which this river flows, is fine and fertile, but far less abundant in beautiful scenery than the Wye; though Drayton has characterized the Lugg as ‘more lovelie.’ Like the Wye, however, it is subject to sudden overflows, and is frequently swelled by partial rains, which give it great rapidity and force at its junction with that river. These circumstances have operated to prevent its being rendered navigable, though two acts of Parliament have been passed for the purpose.

The *Munnow* rises on the Herefordshire side of the Hatterell Mountains, and flowing south-eastward, is joined near Longtown by the *Esle* and *Olchron* rivulets, which have their springs also near the sources of the Munnow; thence flowing southward through a pleasant and sequestered vale, it is joined near Alteryannis by the *Hothny*; after which it turns to the north-east towards Pontrilas, and near that place is increased by the united streams of the *Dore* and the *Werme*, which also rise in this county; the former at Dorston, Dore’s-town, and the latter at Alansmoore. Again turning to the south-east, it forms the boundary between Herefordshire and Monmouthshire, till it quits the county at Llanrothal, and flowing towards Monmouth, is received by the river Wye immediately below that town.

The *Team*, or *Teme*, enters this county from the confines of Radnorshire and Shropshire, a short distance north-west from Bampton Bryan, and flowing eastward, runs into Shropshire near Ludlow: thence bending to the south, it again enters Herefordshire; but soon leaves it for Worcestershire, where having made a considerable circuit, it once more flows on the borders of this county, of which it becomes the boundary for a mile or two above

and below Whiteborn; after which it discharges itself into the Severn, between Malvern-chace and Woodberry Hill, in Worcestershire. In the muscle-shells of this river, *Pearls* have occasionally been found.

The *Leadon*, or *Leddon*, rises above Bosbury, on the east side of the county, and running to the south, gives name to the town of Ledbury; thence flowing into Gloucestershire, it unites with the Severn. The *Arrow* enters Herefordshire from Radnorshire, and flowing to the east, falls into the Lugg below Leominster. The *Frome* rises near Wolfrelow above Bromyard, and taking a south course, is joined by the *Loden* near Stretton-Grandison; when turning to the south-west, it unites with the Lugg above Mordisford.

The inland navigation of Herefordshire is very imperfect; though scarcely any county, possessing neither iron-works, nor any principal manufacture, can have greater occasion for its aids. The *Hereford and Gloucester Canal*, began under an act passed in 1791, is not yet completed,* though upwards of 100,000*l.* has already been expended in its formation: so far as it has been finished, its utility has been very considerable. Another *Canal* has been commenced under an act obtained soon after the former, but has not been carried to its projected extent, through a mis-calculation of expenses. This crosses the upper part of the county, running from Kington to Leominster, and thence towards Stourport, in Worcestershire, where it is intended to unite with the Severn.

Some *Medicinal Springs* have been noticed as rising on the Hereford side of the Malvern Hills, and known among the peasantry by the customary name of *Holy-wells*. Several *Petrifying Springs* are also met with in the neighbourhood of Moccas, Fownhope, Llanrothal, Wormesley, &c. and other hilly parts of the county where the soil is calcareous. Near Richard's Castle, a small spring has obtained the name of *Bone-well*, from the circumstance of its frequently emitting, when disturbed, small bones, resembling vertebræ and other bones of the frog.

Herefordshire returns eight Members to Parliament, viz. two for the county, two for the city, two for Leominster, and two for Weobley.

* See Vol. V. p. 515.

Weobley. Ledbury, Ross, and Bromyard, also, were formerly privileged to send representatives, but were excused by petition on the plea of inability to support them.

HEREFORD.

THE antiquity of Hereford is remote; but the precise era of its origin has not been ascertained. Camden supposes it to have arisen in the maturity of the Saxon Heptarchy; though he inconsistently, and immediately afterwards, assigns the reign of Edward the Elder as the time of its foundation. It must, however, have been in existence long before, even previous to the year 676,* or 680,† when Peada, or Peda, King of Mercia, having embraced the Christian religion, a Synod was held here, in which it was decreed, that a new See should be formed in Mercia; and, in consequence, Putta was chosen as the first Bishop of Hereford; the ceremonies of his consecration being performed by Sexulph, Bishop of Lichfield, who was himself styled ‘Bishop of the Mercian people on the west side of the river Severn.’‡ This circumstance clearly evinces, that Hereford must then have been a place of some importance; and the probability is, that it originated soon after the departure of the Romans, when *Magna Castra*, or Kenchester, the nearest Roman station, was deserted. The etymology of its name is not sufficiently established to decide this inquiry. Camden observes, that the Britons called the place ‘*Trefawith*, from the beech trees, and *Hên-with*, from the old road, before it got the name of Hereford.’ The Britons, however, according to Mr. Gough,§ did not call it *Hên-with*, but *Hên-fordd*; i. e. the old way; and from these words he supposes the Saxons to have formed its present name, which, in the language of that people, signifies the *ford of the army*.||

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* Gale’s Ang. Scrip. Vol. III. p. 240.

† Godwin de Præsul, p. 526.

‡ Matt. of West. and Gale, as quoted by Duncumb.

§ Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 451.

|| Ibid.

Whatever was the origin of Hereford, its having been fixed on as the seat of a Bishop, was certainly the means of preserving and extending its consequence. It became a capital of the Mercian kingdom, and had a magnificent Church, according to Polydore Virgil,* as early as the reign of Offa, and even before the present Cathedral was founded by that Sovereign, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert, King of the East Angles. The building of this latter fabric, and the various gifts made by the multitudes that came to visit the tomb of Ethelbert, who was considered as a martyr, and worshipped as a saint, were the causes of Hereford attaining additional importance. Under the West Saxon Kings, its progress was equally flourishing; and in or about the time of Athelstan, the City was inclosed by *Walls*, to secure it on those sides where it was not defended by the Wye.† Here, also, Athelstan made a treaty with the Britons in the year 939, having compelled them to agree to the payment of an annual tribute of twenty pounds

* ‘*Templum quod Herefordiæ id temporis, magnificum erat,*’ are the words of this historian: “its claim, however, to magnificence,” observes Mr. Duncumb, “must have arisen from a comparison with other buildings of similar construction; and although stone churches of some eminence were not then unusual, that of Hereford seems to have been principally formed of wood, as the above historian terms the church which followed, *lapidea Structura*, apparently as a marked distinction from that which preceded it.” *Collections, Vol. I. p. 520.*

† “The *Walls*, which now imperfectly remain, although improved and strengthened at various periods, probably stand on the original foundations. They are 1800 yards in extent, and inclose the city on the east, north, and west sides: towards the south, it has the natural defence of the Wye; and also fifty yards of wall from the western angle towards the bridge: the whole of this side is 550 yards. The gates were six in number, viz. Wye Bridge Gate, which stood at the south end of the bridge; Friar’s Gate, which was situated on the south-west; Eigne Gate, on the west; Wide-marsh Gate, on the north; Bishop’s Gate, on the north-east; and St. Andrew’s, since called St. Owen’s, on the south-east. Fifteen embattled towers projected from the walls, having

pounds in gold, three hundred in silver, and two hundred head of cattle, besides hawks and hounds, in lieu of sixty-six pounds of silver, which they were before bound to pay by the laws of Howel Dda.

About the middle of the eleventh century, the garrison of Hereford successfully opposed the Welsh, who had made an irruption into the Marches; but were more unfortunate three years afterwards, in 1055, when a formidable army entered the county under the command of Gryflyth, a Sovereign of Wales, and Algar, Earl of Chester, who had been disgraced and banished from the court of Edward the Confessor. The English were commanded by Earl Ranulph, or Ralph, the Governor of Hereford, who was induced to quit the city, and give battle to the Welsh, within the distance of two miles; but, after a contest of some length, his forces were defeated, and driven back towards Hereford; and the two armies entering the city together, the whole became a scene of pillage and slaughter. The principal inhabitants fled to the Cathedral for security; but neither the sacredness of the place, nor the supplications of the Bishop, (Leofgar,) availed against the stern descendants of the Britons; the entrance was forced, and a dreadful carnage ensued.

having embrasures in the shape of crosses, in the centre and sides, for observation, and the discharge of arrows. The distances between these towers varied from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five yards: the height of the wall, measuring on the outside, was sixteen feet; that of the towers, thirty-four. Thus the whole circumference of the city, inclosed by the walls and river, was 2350 yards. Speed, in his History, states the wall only to be 1500 paces in extent; and Leland very correctly calls it 'a goodly mile.' The latter writer also observes, that 'these walles and gates be right well maintained by the Burgesses of the town;' and notices also, the additional security derived from 'a little brooke that cometh a five miles by west, and circuith (as it still continues to do) the ditches of the walles, *ubi non defenditur Vagá*, and goeth down, leaving the Castle on the right hand, and thence drieving two milles for corne, goeth into Wye a *flyte shoote* beneath Wye Bridge, and hard beneath the castle."

ensued. The Bishop himself, according to some accounts,* together with seven Canons, and many other persons of all ages, and of each sex, were slain within the Church, which was afterwards pillaged of its riches, and burnt. The flames from the Cathedral communicated to the city, the greatest part of which was in consequence reduced to ashes. According to the Welsh Chronicles, nearly 500 of Earl Ranulph's men were slain; and the " Britons returned home with manie worthie prisoners, great triumph, and rich spoiles, leaving nothing in the town but blood and ashes, and the walls razed to the ground."† King Edward, who was then at Gloucester, immediately collected an army to revenge these excesses; and Harold, son of Earl Godwin, to whom its command was intrusted, advanced into Wales, and obliged the late successful invaders to sue for peace.

Soon afterwards, Harold returned to Hereford, and fortified it, according to Floriacensis, with a ' broad and high rampire.' Other authors also ascribe the re-building of its walls and fortifications to Harold, who is likewise said to have erected a CASTLE; but on this head the observations of Mr. Duncumb are particularly pertinent.

" When Harold rebuilt the walls, it seems highly probable, that he founded the Castle for the further defence of the town; yet on this point writers are not fully agreed: it is, however, well known, ' that the policy of Edward the Confessor induced him, in the early part of his reign, to fortify strongly places of consequence, and especially those most accessible or advantageous to his enemies, which was precisely the situation of Hereford, from its vicinity to Wales. *Edoardus, inito principatu, cuncta sibi e republicâ a primo facienda existimans, loca omnia præsiidiis munire,*' &c. But Grafton writes, that ' Edward the Elder, son of Alured, in the eighth

* According to other records, the Bishop was the only person spared from the general carnage: his fate, however, was not the less severe, for, after suffering every cruelty the infuriate hatred of his enemies could suggest, he was at length put to death at Glasbury, in Brecknockshire.

† Powell's Chron. of Wales.

eight year of his reign, (908,) did built a strong Castle at Hereford:’ and a manuscript in the Harleian Library* mentions, from Holinshed, that ‘Griffith, King of Wales, wasted a great part of Herefordshire; against whom the men of that county, and Normans,† out of the Castle of Hereford, went; but Griffith obtained the victory, slaying many, and toke a great prey.’ Sprott’s Chronicle also records; ‘*Edwardus Rex Castrum Herefordiæ . . . et Villam de Wyggemore condidit . . . cui successit Ethelstanus.*’

“To these accounts it is objected, that, had a regular Castle existed when Algar and Gryffyth got possession of Hereford, Leland would hardly have represented that it was ‘scant fortified’ on that occasion; nor would the Welsh Chroniclers have omitted to notice what would have added so much to the fame of their heroes, as the reduction of a considerable Castle. Camden observes, that ‘the Normans afterwards (i. e. after the Conquest) built on the east side of the Church, on the Wye, a large strong Castle, which some ascribe to Earl Milo.’ Hume also ascribes the building to the Norman Conqueror: others attribute it to William Fitz-Osborne, first Earl of Hereford, after the Conquest. Leland writes, ‘some think that Heraldus began this Castle after he had conquered the rebellion of the Welshmen in King Edward the Confessor’s time. Some think that the Lacys, Earls of Hereford, were the great makers of it; and the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford.’ Dr. Stukeley states, that the Castle was a noble work, built by one of the Edwards before the Conquest: and Giraldus Cambrensis, as quoted by Lambarde, attributes the building to ‘Randal Poer, when Shyrife of the shyre,’ but does not add the date.

“Now Camden’s idea, that Earl Milo was the founder, is obviously incorrect; for the Castle stood a siege some years before Milo was Earl of Hereford. Leland’s report of the Lacys is equally

* No. 7366.

† These Normans had been introduced by Edward the Confessor, and respect was had to them after the Conquest, in a provisional law, intituled, ‘*De jure Normannorum qui ante adventum Gulielmi, cives fuerent Anglicani.*’ *Taylor’s Gavel-kind*, p. 78.

equally groundless, as none of that family appear to have been Earls of Hereford at any period. The other accounts are, perhaps, best reconciled, by supposing that some rude fortifications, composed simply of earth, and thrown up after the British mode, might have existed before the time of Harold, and might even have acquired the appellation of a Castle: that on their site, Harold founded a regular work of stone, which his death, in 1066, prevented his finishing; and that the Earls, and some of the Sheriffs of Hereford, afterwards completed his design.* Part of the materials used in the works erected by Harold, are conjectured to have been brought from the ruins of the Roman Station at Kenchester. The

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 227, 228. The Castle "occupied a part of the south and east sides of the City, having the river Wye on the south, and being defended by a large and deep moat on the north and east sides, to the angle of which the wall of the City extended. This situation was well calculated for the defence of the Cathedral, which nearly adjoined it on the west; and probably that circumstance occasioned a preference to this particular spot, which does not seem well adapted to the general defence of the town.

"The Castle comprised two wards; the keep was in the smaller, towards the west, having a strong tower on the top, and a dungeon underneath. Leland describes the keep to have been, 'high, and very strong, having in the outer wall, ten semicircular towers, and one great tower within.' Dr. Stukeley termed it, 'a very lofty artificial keep, walled formerly at top, and having a wall in it faced with good stone.' In the eastern ward, were the Gatehouse; a Chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert, part whereof, says Leland, is '*opere circulari*;' a mill, and two dwelling-houses, perhaps intended originally for the accommodation of the Governor and his attendants. 'There is a fayre and plentiful spring of water,' continues Leland, 'within the Castle; and that, and the piece of the brooke coming out of the ditch, did drive a mill within the Castle.' In every direction it must have been capable of very considerable defence against the modes of attack then known: on the south, the ground along the eastern ward, fell almost perpendicularly seven yards to the river: on the east, the works stood on earth thrown up five yards, with a deep and broad moat in front, which were all

The Domesday Book contains many interesting particulars relating to the customs and tenures prevalent in this city and its suburbs. Indeed, the account is so full, that it clearly shows the consequence which Hereford had attained; though its inhabitants, both within and without the walls, are in the same record stated to have been only 103 in the time of Edward the Confessor. This enumeration, however, must have been made subsequent to the storming of the town by Algar and Gryffyth; as the number of houses held under the Bishop, are also stated in the Survey to have been only sixty, though his predecessor had ninety-eight.

Hereford

continued on the north, until they reached the wall which inclosed the keep. The dimensions of the greater or eastern ward, measuring on the site of the walls, were nearly as follow: on the south 175 yards; on the west 100; on the north 175; and on the east 196. The smaller or western ward was nearly one hundred yards in extent, on the south and east sides: towards the north and west were three sides, each measuring sixty-five yards. 'There came also an arme of a brooke that runneth through a great piece of the town dike, by an arche made in the town wall into the Castle dike, and so compassing half the Castle, (that is the east and north sides of the larger court,) went into Wye; so that with the principall arme of this brooke, and with the arme of it going through the Castle dike, and with the maine stream of Wye River, the whole Castle was environed; but now the arme of the brooke cometh not through the Castle, yet it might soon be returned thither. The second ward, where the dungeon is, was also environed with water; for a piece of the water, that came through the dike, was turned that way.* The entrance was on the north side of the eastern ward, over a great bridge of stone arches, with a draw-bridge in the middle. The Castle standeth on the left ripe of Wye River, and a little beneath the bridge, and is strongly ditched *ubi non defenditur flumine*; the walles of it be high and stronge, and full of great towres: it hath been one of the largest, fayrest and strongest Castles in England.† By the side of the ditch arose a spring, which superstition consecrated to St. Ethelbert:‡ this is situated on the north side of the western ward, and retains a degree of reputation to the present day." *Ibid*, Vol. I. p. 229, 231.

* Leland's Itinerary.

† *Ibid*.

‡ Stukeley, *Iter. Curiosum*.

Hereford was then governed by an officer, or Bailiff, (*Præpositus*,) appointed by the Crown, whose consent it was necessary to obtain, before any inhabitant could leave the city: "he might then sell his house to any other person who would perform the usual service; but one-third part of the price given was paid to the King's officer. If any inhabitant was unable, through poverty, to discharge the accustomed dues to the Crown, his house became forfeited; and the *Præpositus* was to provide another tenant, and take care that the dues were collected. The owner of an entire dwelling-house within the walls, paid sevenpence farthing annually, besides fourpence towards providing war-horses: he was also obliged to mow grass in the King's manor of Marden, in the month of August; and to attend one other day, when ordered by the Sheriff, to collect hay together. He who kept a horse, attended the Sheriff three times in the year to the hundred courts, and to that of Wormelow. When the King hunted in Haywood Forest, every house was to furnish one man to assist in taking the game. Other inhabitants not possessing entire dwelling-houses, provided door-keepers for the Hall, whenever the King attended in person. On the death of any one who had served with a war-horse, the King was entitled to his horse and arms; where no horse was kept, ten shillings were paid to the King; or, in default, possession was taken of his house and lands: if any one died without having disposed of his effects, the whole became the property of the Crown.

"These customs prevailed within the walls: those in the suburbs were similar, except that in the latter, the owner of a house paid only three-pence farthing. Other regulations were common to both: and when the wife of any inhabitant brewed, ten-pence was paid by ancient custom. There were six smiths, and each of them paid one penny for his forge, and furnished 120 *ferra* from the King's iron, for which each was paid three-pence; nor were they subject to any other service whatever. There were also seven *Moneyers*, one of whom belonged to the Bishop. When a coinage took place, every Moneyer paid eighteen shillings for the liberty of procuring bullion; and on their return with it, each paid twenty shillings daily to the King during one month; and the Bishop's

Moneyer paid the same to the Bishop. When the King came to Hereford, the Moneyers coined as much as he ordered; but the King furnished the silver to make it: each of the Moneyers enjoyed the privileges of *Sac* and *Soke*, by which they were exempted from customary payments. On the death of either of the King's Moneyers, twenty shillings were paid to the Crown as a relief: but if he died without having disposed of his effects, the King, as in other cases, took possession of the whole. If the Sheriff went into Wales, the Moneyers attended him; and every one of them refusing to go, after a summons to that effect, paid a fine of forty shillings to the King. Earl Harold had twenty-seven Burgesses under him at Hereford, and these were subject to the same customs as the others. The Bailiff, or chief officer, paid annually twelve pounds to the King, and six to Earl Harold; the above customs being common to the tenants of each. The King also received these forfeitures or penalties, in case of particular offences; for each of which one hundred shillings were paid to the King, whether the offender was his tenant or not.

“After the Conquest, King William held Hereford in his own demesne, and the English inhabitants remained subject to the above stated customs: but the French inhabitants were exempt from all forfeitures, (except the three noticed above,) on the payment of twelvecence annually. The whole town thus paid to the Conqueror, sixty pounds in silver coin, which, together with the emoluments accruing from eighteen manors, which were accounted for in Hereford, amounted to 335l. 18s. besides the mulcts, and other profits, arising from the hundred and county courts.”* Hereford continued subject to these regulations for some time after the Conquest.

The first Earl of Hereford, after the Norman Invasion, was William Fitz-Osborne, whose extensive power has been already noticed under the description of the Isle of Wight.† Among other laws, which exemplify the great authority of this nobleman, he enacted,

* Duncumb from the Domesday Book, Vol. I. p. 295, 313, 315.

† See p. 336.

enacted, that no man of war, or soldier, in the county of Hereford, should be fined for any offence whatever, more than forty shillings.* In Powell's Chronicle of Wales, Richard Fitz-Scrope is mentioned as Governor of Hereford Castle; when Edric Silviaticus, son of Alfric, Earl of Mercia, "taking advantage of King William's absence in Normandy, fell foul upon such as were appointed Vice-gerents and Governors of the Kingdom during his absence." If Fitz-Scrope was really Governor here at that time, he must have been subordinate to Fitz-Osborne, as the "original government of the Castle appears to have been hereditary in the provincial Earls."† Yet, however this may be, the Chronicle proceeds to record, that Fitz-Scrope, with the forces under his command, 'so bitterly gauled' Edric, by wasting and consuming his lands, that the latter "was compelled to desire aid of Blethyn and Rhywalhon, Princes of Wales, by whose help, to reconcile the loss he had received, he passed into Hereford, and, after he had over-run and pillaged the country to Wye Bridge, returned back with exceeding great booty."

In the reign of Henry the First, Walter, Constable of England, held in his custody for a time, the Castles of Gloucester and Hereford: but King Stephen afterwards granted to Robert de Bellamonte, Earl of Leicester, on creating him Earl of Hereford, "the Burgh of Hereford, with the Castle, and the whole County of Hereford;" with the exception of certain lands belonging to the Church and others.‡ These honors appear to have been granted him through his marriage with Emma, the heiress of the Breteuils, Earls of Hereford, the descendants from Fitz-Osborne. Soon afterwards, the Castle was seized by William Talbot, a partizan of the "Empress Maud, who advanced Milo, son of Walter, the Constable, before mentioned, to the Earldom of Hereford; granting,

* Harl. MS. 4046.

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 231.

‡ The words of the grant are, *Burgum Herefordie et Castellum, et totum comitatum de Herefordcyre, præter terram episcopatus, et terram Abbathie de Rading et aliarum ecclesiarum, et Abbathiarum qui tenent de me in capite; et excepto, &c.*

ing, at the same time, to him and to his heirs, the Castle and moat of Hereford, with other donations.”*

While the Castle was in possession of Talbot, it successfully withstood a siege by the Royal forces; but three years afterwards, in 1141, the King invested it in person with a large army, and, after some resistance, it was surrendered to him by Earl Milo, who was divested of his honors; but his life was spared. Stephen is recorded, on this occasion, to have entered the city with great pomp, and to have sat crowned in the Cathedral on the Whitsunday following, during the performance of divine service.

In the reign of Henry the Second, Roger, son and heir of Milo, was restored to his father's Earldom; and “ at the same time was granted to him, ‘ the mote of Hereford, with the whole Castel, and the third penny of the pleas of the whole county of Hereford.’ Notwithstanding this mark of favor, Roger was afterwards induced, through the instigation of Hugh de Mortimer, of Wigmore, to fortify the Castle of Hereford against the King; but both the insurgents were soon reduced by that Monarch,† who is said to have detained the Earldom of Hereford in his own hands during some time afterwards.”‡ The Earl of Hereford was persuaded to submit to the King by Bishop Gilbert Foliot, his kinsman.

When the confederated Barons, with the Earl of Leicester at their head, appeared in arms against Henry the Third, one of the first acts of open hostility was committed at Hereford, where Peter de Aqua-blanca, the Bishop, was arrested, and imprisoned, and afterwards expelled the kingdom, on account of his being a foreigner, and for his known attachment to the See of Rome. He was, however, but a short time absent; for the King, in a letter, dated at Hereford, on the fifth of June, in the following year, 1263, after seriously remonstrating with him on his neglect of ecclesiastical duties, commands him, all excuses set aside, “ forthwith to repair to his Church; and that if he did not do so, he

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* Duncumb from Vincent's Disc. Rapin observes, that this was the first instance of an Earldom conferred by patent. *Ibid.*

† Dug. Bar. Vol. I.

‡ Duncumb, Vol. I. p. 233.

willed him to know for a certainty, that he would take into his hands all the temporal goods belonging to the Barony of the same, which his progenitors gave and bestowed for spiritual exercise therein with a godly devotion; and as such goods and duties were not turned to the profit and commodity of the Church, he would seize upon them, and suffer no longer he should reap temporal things, that feared not to withdraw and keep back spiritual, and refused to undergo and bear the burthen of the same." This recalled the Bishop to his office: but the power of the Barons again interposed, and he was once more seized, and that in his Cathedral, where his wealth was distributed in his own presence to the soldiers.

The records of the proceedings of the contending parties at this period are much confused; but it seems evident, that Hereford, from its vicinity to the Welsh frontiers, and from the circumstance of the surrounding country being influenced to act in opposition by the adverse partizans of the Sovereign, and of the Barons, was subjected to continual alarms. Roger de Mortimer, who had been nominated by the King, Captain General of all the Royal forces in these parts, after being discomfited by Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, retired to the Castle, which was soon afterwards besieged by the Earl of Leicester, and the forces of the Welsh Prince, whose attacks were so powerful, that the garrison, after some time, abandoned it during the night, leaving the city at the complete disposal of the besiegers, who partly destroyed it by fire.

About this period, Peter de Montfort, Leicester's son, appears to have had the custody of the Castle* committed to his charge; " and

* " William Capon anciently held lands at Marden, in this county, by serjeancy, the particular tenure of which was, that he should be door-keeper to the Castle of Hereford; but during the reign of Henry the Third, this tenure was converted into Knight's service. In the first of Edward the First, Henry Pigot also held of the King, in chief, forty-four acres of arable land, by the service of conducting the King's treasure from this Castle to London. Other land, in various parts of the county, was held by a similar tenure; and in the succeeding reign, (fifth of

“and a precept was made out to Walter D'Evereux, then Sheriff, and probably his predecessor in the government of the Castle, for delivering the issues of the county to this Peter, for the better strengthening the works of the Castle.”*

The haughty and unconciliating behaviour of the Earl of Leicester, who, after the battle of Lewes, had usurped all the authority of the state, and kept the King, and his gallant son, Prince Edward, so completely under the direction of his own adherents, that they were really prisoners, though indulged with the semblance of liberty, occasioned a powerful confederacy to be formed against him by the King's friends, with the Earl of Gloucester, and Roger Mortimer, at their head. Gloucester had previously retired from Parliament to his estates in Wales; and Leicester, who knew his influence, followed him to Hereford with an army; and that he might add authority to his cause, carried both the King and the Prince along with him. This, however, contrary to his hopes, proved the source of all his future calamities; for Gloucester, by means of his emissaries, concerted with young Edward, the manner of that Prince's escape, and which was soon afterwards effected as follows.

Edward obtained permission to exercise himself on horseback, in a meadow called Wide-marsh, on the north side of the town; and the necessary arrangements having been previously made, he then mounted a swift horse, after fatiguing those of his guard, and rode off full speed, calling to his keepers, ‘That he had long enough enjoyed the pleasure of their company, and now bid them adieu.’ The appearance of a small party, under the Lords Roger de Mortimer, and Clifford, prevented any distant pursuit; and Ed-

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of Edward the Second,) Richard Freeman paid a fine to the King, of half a mark, for his relief of certain lands and tenements in Fromynton, which the said William held, *in capite*, by the service of carrying a cord round the walls of the said Castle when measured: this tenure was afterwards converted to a payment of 7s. 7d. per annum.” *Duncumb's Coll. p. 237.*

* Dugd. Warw. p. 595.

ward was conducted in safety to the Castle of Wigmore.* His escape so invigorated the hopes of the Royalists, that they immediately formed an army, which Leicester was wholly unable to withstand; and that ambitious Earl was shortly afterwards killed in the decisive battle of Evesham, in Worcestershire.

After the death of Llewellyn, and the subjugation of Wales by Edward the First, an attempt was made by some of the Chieftains of that Principality, to regain independence; but the endeavor was unsuccessful; and Mael Gwyn Vychan, with two of his associates, were first imprisoned, and afterwards hanged, in this city; the former being dragged to execution at the tails of horses. In the reign of this Monarch, the Castle underwent various and essential repairs: in the next reign, however, it began to be neglected; and from that period was suffered gradually to decay, the subjugation of the Welsh having divested it of all its importance in a national point of view.

The Great Council of the Realm, which deposed the unfortunate Edward the Second, was assembled in this city: and here that weak Monarch's equally unfortunate favorite, the younger Spenser, was executed on a gallows fifty feet high, by the Queen's order. Four days afterwards, anno 1326, Sir Simon de Reding, John, Earl of Arundel, John Daniel, and Thomas de Michaeldure, his chief friends, were also put to death in this city. This is the last event of historical importance recorded in the annals of Hereford, from this period till the commencement of the Civil Wars, in the time of Charles the First; except, perhaps, the execution of Owen Tudor, (husband of Catherine of France,) with nine other Chieftains

* The accounts of the Prince's escape vary in some particulars: Collins relates, that Edward, according to previous agreement, on sight of a person (said to have been the Lord of Croft) mounted on a white horse, and waving his bonnet on a neighbouring height, (Tillington Hill,) rode towards him at full speed, and was received as above related. Others state, that the plan for his escape was concerted between him and Mortimer only; and that the latter received him with his banner displayed, on Dinmore Hill, and thence conveyed him to Wigmore Castle. *Dugd. Baron.*

tains of rank, who were made prisoners at the battle of Mortimer's Cross, which proved so fatal to the Lancastrians.

At the time that hostilities commenced between Charles and his Parliament, Hereford is described by Lord Clarendon, as "a town very well affected, and reasonably well fortified, having a strong stone wall about it, and some cannon; and there being in it some soldiers of good reputation, many gentlemen of honor and quality, and three or four hundred soldiers, besides the inhabitants well armed."* Notwithstanding these circumstances, so favorable to its defence, Sir William Waller appearing suddenly before it, "perswaded them fairly to give up the town, and yield themselves prisoners on quarter, without the loss of one man on either side; and to the admiration of all who then heard it, or have since heard of it."† The want of energy among the Royalist officers, and the unwillingness of the inhabitants to assist in strengthening the works, appear to have been the causes of this hasty surrender. Among the prisoners were Sir Richard Cave, *Knt.* Colonel Herbert Price, the Governor of Hereford; Lord Viscount Scudamore; Sir William Croft; Sir Walter Pye; and Colonel James Morgan. Some accusations were afterwards made against Sir Richard Cave, who had acted as Commander in Chief of the forces at Hereford, and was charged with 'dishonourably giving up the city;' but the confusion of the times prevented the enquiries being regularly pursued.

The Parliamentary army quitted Hereford shortly after its surrender; and it was immediately re-occupied by a strong garrison of Royalists, under the command of Barnabas Scudamore, *Esq.* brother to the first Viscount Scudamore. Two years afterwards, in 1645, it was besieged by the Scotch auxiliaries under the Earl of Leven, who commenced his operations on the thirty-first of July; but, after an ineffectual struggle of upwards of a month's continuance, and just as the Earl had completed his preparations for storming the city, he was compelled to retreat by the approach of the King, with a superior force, from Worcester. The entrench-

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* Hist. Rebellion, fol. 312.

† Ibid.

ments thrown up by the Scots are still visible on different sides of the city.*

Though successful in this enterprise, the cause of Charles soon became hopeless; and even Hereford continued but a short time in his hands: it was taken by a detachment of Parliamentary troops,

* The most particular events which occurred during this siege, are thus detailed in a letter sent by the brave Scudamore to Lord Digby, and now preserved among the King's pamphlets in the British Museum, No. 227, S. 5.

“ On the 30th of July, I sent out a party of twenty horse over Wye Bridge, who discovering their forlorne hope of horse, charged them into their maine body, and returned in very little disorder, and with losse only of one trooper, taken prisoner; some of the Scots falling. Immediately after this, their whole body of horse faced us about ten of the clock in the morning, within reach of our cannon, and were welcomed with our mettall, good execution being done upon them; their foot as yet undiscovered. About half an hour after, I caused a strong party of foot, seconded with horse, to line the hedges, who galled them in their passage to the fords; after whose handsome retreat, I began to ensafe the ports, which I did that night. In the morning appeared their body of foot, and we found ourselves surrounded. I injoynd the bells silence, lest their ringing, which was an alarme to awaken our devotion, might chime them together to the execution of their malice. For the same reason I stopt the clocks; and hereby, tho' I prevented them telling tales to the advantage of the enemy, I myselfe lost the punctuall observation of many particulars, which, therefore, I must more confusedly relate to your Lordship.

“ Before they attempted any thing against the towne, they invited us to a surrendre: this they did by a double summons; one from Leven, directed to me; the other from the Committee of both Kingdoms, (attending upon the affayres of the army,) sent to the Maior and Corporation; but we complied so well in our resolutions, that one positive answer served for both parties, which was returned by me to their Generall.

“ This not giving that satisfaction they desired, they began to approach upon the first of August, but very slowly and modestly, as yet intending more the security of their owne persons, than the ruine of ours; but all their art could not protect them from our small and great shot which
fell

troops, under the command of Colonel Birch, Colonel Morgan, and Captain Silas Taylor, who are recorded to have obtained possession by the following stratagem. " Letters from Colonel Birch informed the particulars of the taking of Hereford: that he hired six men, and put them in the form of laborers, and a constable

F f 4

with

fell upon them. Besides this, our men galled them handsomely at their several sallies over Wye Bridge; once beat them up to their maine guard; and at another demolisht one side of St. Martin's Steeple, which would have much annoyed us at the bridge and pallace. This was performed only with the hurt of two men, but with the losse of great store of the enemies men.

" When they saw how difficult the service would prove, before they could compasse their designs by force, they made use of another engine, which was flattery. The Maior and Aldermen are courted to yeild the towne, by an epistle subscribed by six of the country gentlemen, very compassionate and suasory; but upon our refusall to stoup to this lure, they were much incensed that they had been so long disappointed, and having all this while continued their line of communication, they raised their batteries, commencing at Wye Bridge, from whence they received the greatest dammage; but, instead of revenging that losse upon us, they multiplied their own, by the death of their much lamented General Crafford, and some others that fell with him. This provoked them to play hot upon the gate for two dayes together, and battered it so much, being the weakest, that it was rendered uselesse; yet our men stopped it up with wool-sacks and timber; and for our greater assurance of eluding their attempt, we brake an arch, and raised a very strong worke behind it.

" The enemy, frustrate of his hopes here, raised two severall batteries; one at the Friers, the other on the other side of Wye river; and from both these playes his ordinance against the corner of the wall by Wye side; but we repaire and line our walls faster than they can batter them, whereupon they desist.

" About the 11th of August, we discover a mine at Frien (Fryar's) Gate, and imploy workmen to countermine them. When we had stopt the progresse of that mine on one side of the Gate, they carried it on the other; which we also defeated, by making a sally-port, and issuing forth, did break it open, and fire it.

" About

with them, with a warrant to bring these men to work in the town; that in the night he lodged these men within three quarters musket-shot of the town, and 150 firelocks near them; and himself with the

“ About the 13th they raise batteries round about the town, and make a bridge over Wye river. The 14th Dr. Scudamore is sent by them, to desire admittance for three country gentlemen, who pretended, in their letters, to impart something of consequence to the good of the city and country. Free leave of ingresse and egresse was allowed them; but, being admitted, their suggestions were found to us so frivolous and impertinent, that they were dismissed; not without some disrelish and neglect; and the said Doctor, after they had passed the port, coming back from his company, was unfortunately slaine by a shot from the enemy.

“ About the 16th they discover the face of their battery against Friengate, with five severall gun-ports; from hence they played foure cannon jointly at our walls, and made a breach, which was instantly made up; they doe the like on the other side, with the like successe.

“ The 17th a notable sally was made at St. Owen's Church with great execution, and divers prisoners taken, with the losse of only one man: at the same time little boys strived which should first carry torches and faggots to fire their works, which was performed to some purpose; and so it was at the same sally-port once before, though with a fewer number; and, therefore, with lesse execution. And I may not forget to acquaint your Lordship with those other foure sallies, made by us at the Castle to good effect; and what emulation there was between the souldiers and citizens, which should be most engaged in them.

“ Now their losse of prisoners, slaughter of men, and dishonour of being beaten out of their workes, which they found ready to flame about their eares, if they returned presently into them, had so kindled their indignation, that presently they raised batteries against St. Owen's Church, and plaid fiercely at it; but to little purpose, which they so easily perceived, that, from the 20th until the 27th there was a great calme on all sides; we as willing to provide ourselves, and preserve our ammunition from a storme, as they could be industrious and malicious to bring it upon us. Yet I cannot say either side was idle; for they plyed their mine at St. Owen's, and prepared for scaling; we countermined, employed our boyes by day and night to steale out and fire their workes, securing their retreat by musketiers upon the wall; and what our fire could

the foot, and Colonel Morgan with the horse, came up in the night after them, and cut off all intelligence from coming to the town, so that they were never discovered; that one night they came too short;

could not perfect, though it burnt far, and suffocated some of their miners, our water did, breaking in upon them, and drowning that which the fire had not consumed; and this saved us the paines of pursuing a mine, which we had sunk on purpose to render theirs in that place ineffectual.

“The 29th, Leven, a mercifull Generall, assayes the towne by his last offer of honorable conditions to surrender; but he found us still unrelenting, the terror of his cannon making no impression at all upon our spirits, though the bullets discharged from them had done so much on our walls: this, though some of their commanders were remisse and coole at the debate, and some contradictory, drives their greatest spirits into a passionate resolution of storming; and to that purpose, August 31st, and September 1st, they prepare ladders, hurdles, and other accommodations for advancing their designe, and securing their persons in the attempt, and plaied very hot with their cannon upon Bysters-Gate, and the half-moon next St. Owen's-Gate, intending the morning after to fall on; presuming, as they boasted, that, ‘after they had rung us this passing peale, they should presently force the garrison to give up her loyal ghost.’ But the same night, his Majesty advancing from Worcester, gave them a very hot alarm; and drawing a little nearer to us, like the sunne to the meridian,¹ the Scottish miste begane to disperse, and the next morning vanished out of sight.—

“I may not forget one remarkable piece of divine providence, that GOD sent us singular men of all professions, very usefull and necessary to us in this distresse, and so accidentally to us, as if they had been on purpose let down from Heaven to serve our present and emergent occasions; such as skilful miners, excellent cannoneers, one whereof spent but one shot in vain throughout the whole seidge; an expert carpenter, the only man in all the country to make mills, without whom we had been much disfurnisht of our meanes to make powder, (after our powder-mill was burnt,) or grind corne. That Providence that brought these to us, at last drove our enemies from us, after the destruction of foure or five mines, the expense of three hundred cannon-shot, besides other ammunition spent with muskets, and the losse, by their confession, of 1200, and, as the country sayes, 2000, men: we in all, not losing above twenty-one, by all casualties whatsoever.”

short; but the next night, with careful spies and scouts, they carried on the business; and in the morning, upon letting down the draw-bridge, the six countrymen, and the constable, went with their pick-axes and spades to the bridge; that the guard beginning to examine them, they killed three of the guard, and kept the rest in play, till the firelocks came up to them, and then made it good till the body came up, who entered the town with small loss, and became masters of it.”*

To elucidate this statement, it may be necessary to remark, that the country people had been summoned by the Governor of Hereford to repair to the city, for the purpose of assisting in strengthening the walls and fortifications, which had been greatly damaged during the siege by the Scotch army; and that some of the warrants issued on this occasion, having been intercepted, gave origin to the stratagem by which the city was surprised. Among the prisoners were the Lord Brudenell, and Judge Jenkins, together with many Knights, and other gentlemen.

The bravery which the inhabitants of Hereford had displayed in resisting the Scotch, was rewarded, after the Restoration, by a new charter, and an augmentation of arms, with the motto INVICTÆ FIDELITATIS PRÆMIUM. No event of distinguished historical celebrity has occurred within the city since that period.

Among the public buildings of Hereford, the CATHEDRAL, though deprived of much of its venerable appearance by the fall of the west front in the year 1786, still stands pre-eminently conspicuous. This structure, as already mentioned, owes its origin to the murder of Ethelbert, King of the East Angles, by the Mercian King, Offa, whose many valuable donations to the Church which previously occupied the same site, and had been dedicated to St. Mary, has occasioned him to be sometimes considered as the founder of the New Cathedral (in the construction of which those gifts were applied) erected by Milfrid, a Viceroy, or Provincial Governor, under Egbert, about the year 825. The circumstances attending the murder of Ethelbert, are thus detailed by ancient historians.

Offa,

* Whitelock's Memoirs, fol. p. 184, under the date Dec. 26, 1645.

Offa, whose principles had been corrupted by the possession of wealth and dominion, invited Ethelbert to his palace at Sutton Walls, about three miles north-east from Hereford, under pretence of giving him his daughter in marriage. Here Offa, with Quendreda, his Queen, received him with much apparent kindness; but the latter, impelled by the ambition of procuring a new kingdom for her family, quickly obtained the consent of Offa to violate all the ties of honor and hospitality, by putting their unfortunate guest to death. Some accounts relate that Ethelbert was beheaded; but others state him to have been precipitated into a hollow space beneath his bed-chamber, where he was stifled by some partizans in the service of the treacherous Queen. His body was first interred privately at Marden; but soon afterwards Offa gave orders for its removal to the Church at Hereford, where he erected a magnificent tomb to his memory.

Ethelbert, who had been considered as the possessor of various eminent qualifications, was soon regarded as a saint, and many miraculous events were affirmed to have occurred at the place of his interment. Milfrid, the Viceroy of Mercia under Egbert, was induced to inquire into the truth of these reputed miracles, and the result of the investigation proved so satisfactory to him, that he determined to erect a new Church of stone (*lapidea structura*) on the site of the former, and in honor of St. Ethelbert. The ample grants made by Milfrid himself, were augmented by the revenues arising from the gifts of Offa, and still further increased by the numerous offerings made by the pilgrims who flocked in multitudes to the shrine of the murdered King; so that the Cathedral was soon completed; but no description of its then state is supposed to exist. Within less than 200 years, however, it appears to have wholly fallen to decay; and was rebuilt by the munificence of Bishop Athelstan, or Ethelstan, who had been appointed to this See in the year 1012, and presided till the time of his decease in 1055. In that same year, the Cathedral itself was destroyed by fire, during the hostile incursion of the Welsh under Gryffyth, and the Earl of Chester;* it continued in ruins till about the year

1079,

* See pages 441, 442.

1079, when Robert de Lozing, or Lozinga, was made Bishop of Hereford by William the Conqueror, and soon afterwards commenced a new structure on the model of the Church of *Aken*, now Aix-la-Chapelle, in Germany.* Lozinga died in June, 1095, leaving the Cathedral unfinished; but his design was afterwards completed by Bishop Raynelm, Chancellor to the Queen of Henry the First, who was invested by the King with the ring and crosier about the year 1096, though he was not regularly consecrated till 1107. He held the See till his death, in October, 1115; and in the Calendar of Obits, was recorded as a founder of the Church, ‘5 Kal. Oct. obitus RENELMI episcopi, fundatoris ecclesie Sancti Ethelberti:’ probably from the great extent of the work erected during his prelacy. The central tower did not accord with the plan pursued by these Bishops; but was built about a century after the decease of the latter, by the Bishop Engidius de Braose, or Bruce, who possessed the See from the year 1200 to 1216: in allusion to this event, the model of a tower is displayed in the left hand of his effigies, which lies upon his monument in the Cathedral. The tower over the centre of the ancient west front, appears to have been the next addition; and from the style of its architecture, and the character of its ornaments, may be referred to the reign of Edward the Second, or beginning of that of Edward the Third; about which period, also, some other alterations were probably made in the interior of the Cathedral. Further alterations were made at subsequent periods: the great west window in the above front was made under the direction of William Lochard, a Canon in this Church, who died in September, 1458; and a beautiful north porch was erected by Bishop Booth, between the years 1516 and 1535. The choir was fitted up and decorated by Dean Tyler about the year 1720; but the last alterations of any considerable importance are of very recent date, and have been effected since the year 1786, when the tower over the west front gave way, and fell to the ground, destroying all the parts immediately beneath it, together with the adjoining parts of the

* Duncumb’s Collections; from Antiq. Heref. p. 174.

the nave. The west end has since been rebuilt under the direction of Mr. Wyatt, and the whole Cathedral been repaired: these alterations will be more particularly noticed in the ensuing description of this fabric.

The general plan of Hereford Cathedral is that of a cross, with a lesser transept towards the east, and a Chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, beyond it. From the intersection of the nave and transept, rises a square stone tower, which had formerly a spire of timber upon it, cased with lead, and rising ninety-two feet in height above the battlements; but this was pulled down during the late repairs, in order to relieve the arches of the tower from so much of the superincumbent weight. The greater transept is not uniform, its north end being more spacious than the south; yet an additional building, now used as the Chapter House, but originally employed as the Treasury, gives its appearance an air of symmetry. The Cathedral destroyed by Gryffyth and Algar, is supposed to have extended beyond the lines of the present building, and particularly towards the south-east, where, 'near the cloisters of the College,' Silas Taylor, the Antiquary, discovered, about the year 1050, "such stupendous foundations, such capitals and pedestals, such well-wrought bases for arches, and such rare engravings, and mouldings of friezes," as left little doubt in his mind, but that they formed parts of the Church erected by Athelstan.*

The exterior parts of the Cathedral are very dissimilar in appearance, and particularly since the construction of the new west front, the architecture of which is extremely incongruous to the principles of the style it pretends to imitate. Whatever was the cause of this departure from the ancient character of the building, whether it arose from the inadequacy of the funds, or from the want of skill in the architect, its effects are certainly to be lamented, inasmuch as they detract greatly from the sublimity of the original design. The great door, as it now appears, can hardly be compared to any thing else than a very ill-formed niche, with an obtuse arch, bonded by two buttresses, and surmounted by battlements; the great
window

* Harl. MS. in the British Museum.

window is in the high pointed style; and the centre terminates with battlements, and has an empty niche. Besides the buttresses above mentioned, the facade has two five-sided and two common buttresses: the niches over the side doors are paltry in the extreme: the more beautiful front, whose place has been thus usurped, is described by Mr. Duncumb nearly as follows.

The original west-front was carried on in the Saxon style, as high as the roof of the nave in the centre, and of the aisles on the sides. At the west entrance, several series of small Saxon columns, with circular arches intersecting each other, extended horizontally over the whole facade, and were divided from each other by lines, or mouldings, variously adorned. Under the first, or lowest series of arches, the billet ornament prevailed; under the second, the embattled frette; under the third, the nail-head; and under the fourth, the zig-zag: the bases, shafts, capitals, and most of the arches, were plain; but some of the last were distinguished by the zig-zag; and others had the nail-head ornament, both of which decorated other parts of this front. The entrance was under a recessed circular arch, supported by five plain pillars on each side; and over the door and side aisles, mosaic patterns prevailed in the sculpture. "On the centre of this front a tower was afterwards constructed in the pointed style: it was raised on long and irregular shafts, awkwardly projecting from the inside of the original walls of the nave, affording an inadequate support, and proving, by their construction, that the tower itself formed no part of the original building or design." The central window, which was greatly enlarged, and altered into the pointed form, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Sixth, was divided horizontally into three parts, by stone transoms; and each was again divided perpendicularly, by mullions, into six lights, terminating above in trefoil arches. Over the point of the arch "was a human face, with foliage expanding on each side in the form of wings; this served as a corbel to a small ornamented column, which rose to the parapet of the tower: on the sides of the window, under cinquefoil arches, were effigies, as large as life, of St. Paul and Bishop Cautilupe, towards the north; and of St. Peter, and King Ethel-

bert, towards the south: under the feet of each a quatrefoil was sculptured over a trefoil arch; and long and slender shafts, supporting cinquefoil arches, with pediments and pinnacles, enriched with crockets, completed this range of sculptural decoration. Above the pinnacles were two rows of windows, four windows in each row: the upper contained two lights in the lancet form; the lower was somewhat less simple: a single mullion divided each into two lights, as before, and reaching the head, branched off to the sides, forming a trefoil arch over each light, from which an upright was carried to the curve of the window on each side, and completed the design. A border, resembling the nail-head, crossed the tower horizontally above, between, and below the windows: a similar decoration was also carried down the corners of the tower: above the whole was an embattled parapet, decorated with the trefoil arch. Four square buttresses, with Saxon ornaments, projected from the sides of the tower; and the extremities of the front terminated in hexagonal pinnacles, surmounted with crosses: those in the centre reached above the parapet; but those on the sides were lower by one third part.* This tower was eighty feet in breadth, and 130 feet in height. Its fall was preceded by several intimations of its approaching fate, and some attempts were made to prevent it; but the decay had become too general to admit of this being effected. The arches entirely gave way on the evening of Easter Monday, 1786, and the whole mass instantaneously became a heap of ruins. The expense of rebuilding this portion of the Cathedral amounted to nearly 18,000*l.* and about 2000*l.* more was appropriated to the general repair of the central tower, and other parts of the fabric: of these sums 7000*l.* were subscribed by the clergy and laity, and the remaining 13,000*l.* charged on the estates of the Church. The incongruity of the style of the new work was not the only detriment which the Cathedral suffered through the fall of the tower; even the foundations of the west front were removed more inward, and the length of the nave was in consequence considerably diminished.

The

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 524—529.

The exterior of the nave on the north side presents much of its original character, though the tops of the buttresses, clerestory windows, parapets, &c. are modern: the principal windows correspond with those of the south side. The *Porch*, which forms the grand entrance on this front, and was built by Bishop Booth about the commencement of the sixteenth century, is “constructed with four clusters of small pillars, supporting as many pointed arches, three of which are open to the Church-yard, and the fourth leads into the Cathedral. The columns are six feet in height, and rise twelve feet from the level of their capitals to the crown of the arch, making it lofty and pointed. The capitals are plain and circular, divided into several laminæ, gradually decreasing in their circumference from that which is uppermost. The three principal mouldings of the arch leading into the Church are curiously sculptured; the first commences on the one side, immediately above the capital, with the representation of the half length of a man, apparently wearing a coronet; on the other side is a human head, with a mitre; fruit and foliage, not ill executed, complete the design of this moulding, the stem of the foliage being grasped in the hand of the half length figure. The next moulding begins above the capital, with a female figure resting on one knee; she also supports foliage above; and the design is repeated until it reaches the opposite capital. The third, or outer moulding, consists of a series of figures of men and animals, each six inches in length: it commences with a representation of a male religious, with a cowl, scrip, and staff; the second is a female, with a book; the third, a half length human figure, terminating in the tail of a fish; the fourth, a male, playing on a wind instrument, resembling a bagpipe; the fifth, an animal resembling a dragon; the sixth, a female in the attitude of devotion; the seventh, another female; from the eighth to the sixteenth, are generally fanciful beasts, or extravagant mixtures of the human and brute species; the seventeenth is a mitred religious, reaching the point of the arch. The opposite side of this moulding begins with a male human figure, somewhat defaced; the second is an old man, in a distorted attitude of devotion; the third is a bird, like a raven; the fourth,

an extravagant beast; the fifth and sixth, female religious; the seventh, foliage; the eighth and ninth, female religious; the tenth, a bird; the eleventh, twelfth, and so on to the seventeenth, male and female religious. The roof is vaulted with stone, and divided by ribs into angular compartments, with quatrefoils, and other foliage, at their intersections. On each side of the north or front arch, is an hexagonal turret, having winding stair-cases, which lead to a small Chapel over the porch: these turrets have windows on all sides, except the two which attach to the Cathedral. On the sides of the front or outer arch, are also three quatrefoils, in circles ornamented with foliage; above is a window, under an arch less pointed than those of the porch, and supported by small circular columns. This porch projects before the more ancient porch of the Cathedral, which is also vaulted with stone, and has ribs which diverge in three directions from each corner; those on the sides form the arch of their respective walls; and those in the middle meet in a centre orb, adorned with foliage: similar ribs also meet the orb at right angles from the opposite sides. In the east wall is a niche, eighteen inches high, under a trefoil arch, adorned with crockets.”*

At the south-east angle of the ancient porch is a small circular tower, with a winding stair-case; this reaching above the parapet, terminates in pediments, ornamented with crockets on the sides, and the heads of animals on the top. The north end of the *great Transept* is plain, but the summit is embattled, and its sides are strengthened by massive buttresses. On the east and west sides are two very lofty and narrow windows, of three lights, under sharp pointed arches, with small circular columns and mouldings; above are corbels; and still higher, on the parapet towards the west, is sculptured a range of trefoil arches. On the east side are also two of the ancient Norman windows, with circular arches; together with another small and circular tower, formed in the angle, and reaching above the roof of the transept. Between this and the lesser transept is a low *Chapel*, built by Bishop Stanbury, about

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the

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 534—536.

the middle of the fifteenth century, and having two windows under obtuse arches. The arches of the windows on the north and east sides of the smaller transept, are also of the obtuse form; and on the northern summit of this transept is a low and plain cross: the buttresses between the windows are very shelving and prominent.

On the north side of the Chapel dedicated to *Our Lady*, but now used as the *Library*, "are six windows, of the lancet form, supported by small circular pillars, similar to those in use at the beginning of the thirteenth century; and not uncommon in the reign of Edward the First. Between these are circles excavated in the wall, having in the centres human faces, and other devices; above is a series of intersecting arches and columns, the capitals of which are adorned with foliage: a plain parapet surmounts the whole. A porch, vaulted and groined with stone, projects on this side, and leads to the vaults under the Chapel: the outer arch is pointed, with a plain round moulding over it; the inner arch is also pointed, but has the zig-zag ornament: the columns are plain and circular, and the capitals have some foliage on them. The east end of this Chapel has five lancet windows; those on the sides gradually declining in height from that in the centre: between each, on the sides, are two niches under trefoil arches; above are sculptured lozenges, and other ornaments, of an oblong form: still higher is a series of pointed trefoil arches, with battlements above, and pinnacles at the angles. The windows on the south side are also of the lancet form, but are divided into two lights by a single mullion: above them is sculptured a range or series of Saxon arches and pillars, intersecting each other: still higher is a second series of similar arches; these are without columns, and form what is called the *corbel table*. A small *Chapel*, built by Bishop Audley, at the latter end of the fifteenth century, projects on this side, and forms three parts of a hexagon; each part contains two windows under the flat or obtuse arch, introduced about that period: the upper windows are divided into six compartments, by two mullions and a transom, much ornamented; the head is also ramified into many fanciful divisions: the lower windows are smaller, and of more simple construction. The parapet above is embattled,

embattled, and has a row of small clustered pillars, sculptured immediately under it, and supporting trefoil arches.”*

The south end of the smaller transept has two large windows, each divided by mullions into four principal lights, with cinquefoil arches; the spaces above terminate in a trefoil in the centre, and another on each side: the east windows consist each of four lights, under trefoil arches: on the summit, towards the south, is a small stone cross. The south end of the great transept has “one large window under an obtuse arch; and a second, in a circular form, above it, which includes a trefoil. The former is divided into six long and narrow lights, under cinquefoil arches; and the head is similarly divided into twelve parts, under trefoil arches: the courses of stone about it plainly demonstrate that this form is an alteration from the original window, and the same is observable in a more pointed window towards the west. This side has also a smaller window under an obtuse arch, containing three principal lights, sub-divided by transoms, and each light is terminated by a cinquefoil arch: the ancient form of this modernized window is probably to be collected from the Saxon arch, and zig-zag ornaments, of one in the same wall, the use of which has been superseded by that described; but above it is still to be seen a corresponding range of Saxon arches and columns.”† The principal windows on the south side of the nave, are seven in number, with strong projecting buttresses between them; they consist, like those on the north side, of four lights under trefoil arches, the head having a cinquefoil in the centre, with two trefoils under it: above are corbels, representing roses, foliage, and heads of men and animals. The clerestory windows, which form part of the new work of the nave, are also under pointed arches, with corbels above, designed to imitate the former.

The great or *Central Tower* has lost much of its primitive character from modern reparations: in its original state, it “was massive and embattled; the whole was richly studded over with nail-head; and it was further distinguished by the round moulding,

G g 2

triangular

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 531, 532. † Ibid. p. 253.

triangular frette, zig-zag, and other appropriate ornaments in the Saxon style: but, although the form and decorations were thus strictly Saxon, the disposition of these ornaments were in conformity to the pointed style; whilst each side of the tower contained two ranges of lights; four in each range, and of the lancet form." When the spire, which has been already mentioned as having stood upon this tower, was taken down during the late repairs, among the other alterations, the battlements were raised somewhat higher; pinnacles and crockets were placed at the angles; and the effect of additional height was given to the tower itself, by flattening, or reducing, to an obtuse angle, the roofs of the nave and transepts.*

The interior of the Cathedral is still very interesting; though its former venerable appearance has been greatly destroyed by recent alterations, and by the removal of various sepulchral memorials, painted glass, &c. The nave is separated from the aisles by a double row of massive columns, sustaining circular arches, curiously decorated with mouldings of zig-zag, nail-head, lozenges, interwoven twigs, and other ornaments: most of the capitals are plainly sculptured, but those nearest to the choir display some well executed foliage. The arch adjoining the south side of the choir, has, however, been altered from its original form, and stripped of its ornaments: the arches also nearest the west door, have been rebuilt in a plain manner since the fall of the west end. Over the arches, and immediately below the windows of the nave, is a range of arcades, under pointed arches, sustained on small clustered columns. The whole roof is vaulted, and groined with stone, and divided, by ribs, into compartments of various forms: some of the orbs are adorned with human heads and foliage; and on one of them, in the south aisle, is a whole-length male figure in an oblong shield. The entrance into the south end of the great transept is under a low and pointed arch, which originally reached almost to the ceiling, but has been partly filled up; and over the door is a niche and pedestal: somewhat lower, on each side, is a smaller pedestal. The north end of the great transept, called *St.*

Catherine's

Catherine's Aisle, is now used as the parochial Church of St. John Baptist: this is divided from a smaller aisle, on the east, "by two arches on small clustered columns, having plain capitals on the side pillars, and a kind of volute to those in the centre; these arches are decorated with ribbed mouldings, in various patterns; that in the middle consists of a series of small quatrefoils, in open work, which has a very light and handsome appearance; the outer moulding rests on human heads as corbels. Above is a range of arcades, under trefoil arches of elegant workmanship; each arcade is divided into three open compartments by small columns, clustered and circular; the head of every arch is ornamented with three quatrefoils in circles: the mouldings correspond with those of the arches, having the middle ornamented as before; and those on the sides ribbed. Between the outer mouldings of the several arches, the wall is well sculptured in a Mosaic pattern, representing four leaves expanded in each square: a cornice, similar to the ornamented moulding, extends horizontally over the whole, which comprises six arcades."* The opposite or west wall, is less decorated; but it contains a handsome circular arch, originally used as a window: the arch is ornamented with a double row of zig-zag, resting on circular columns, with square capitals: the base of this window projects, and is marked with the hatched ornament.† Before the late alterations, the windows of the nave were adorned with the arms of various noble families, &c. in painted glass.

The nave is terminated by a plain screen, through which is the entrance to the *Choir*, under a pointed arch: above is a large and well-toned organ, over which a noble circular arch extends, and supports the west side of the tower; the arch is decorated with zig-zag and nail-head ornaments. The choir is lofty, and well proportioned; it contains fifty stalls, with ornamental canopies in the pointed style: these, though composed of wood, are painted of a stone color; under the seats are carved various grotesque and ludicrous devices and figures. Above the oak wainscoting on the sides of the altar, are rich open circular arches, with others still

G g 3

higher

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 571.

† Ibid.

higher in the pointed style: a flight of seven steps leads to the altar, which has a sumptuous and elegant appearance.*

The eastern termination of the Cathedral is formed by the *Chapel of Our Lady*, now used as the *Library*, and containing a valuable collection of books and manuscripts, arranged in classes: most of them relate to ecclesiastical history. One of the greatest curiosities in this Chapel, is an ancient *Map* of the world, on vellum, illuminated with gilt Saxon letters, and having inscriptions in black letter. The different places appear to be marked by animals, houses, &c. but the whole is so thickly covered by dirt, that the full design cannot be traced. This map is contained within a frame ornamented by foliage in the pointed style, and had originally shutters to preserve it from injury; it was discovered under a pile of lumber some years ago, and is even now sufficiently neglected. The windows in this part of the building are in the lancet form, and are separated from each other by receding clusters of small pillars, supporting pointed arches, richly ornamented with foliage and single leaves, in open-work of great elegance and lightness: the capitals of the pillars are similarly ornamented, and quatrefoils in circles are introduced over the windows. Beneath the library is a vault, or crypt, which has of late years acquired the name of *Golgotha*, from its having been made a place of deposit for the human bones disturbed in the repairs of the Cathedral.

The

* In the possession of the Rev. Mr. Russell, a Canon of this Cathedral, is a curious antique portable *Shrine*, considered as that of St. Ethelbert; a good engraving of which is given in Duncumb's Collections. Its height is eight inches and a half; its length, seven inches; its breadth, three inches and a half. It is formed of oak, covered with plates of copper enamelled, and ornamented with gilding. The front and sides are ornamented with figures, the heads of which are in relief; but the back part has only four small leaves repeated in square compartments. A red cross is painted within the shrine, on a part stained with a dark liquid. The representations on the outside are supposed to allude to the circumstances attending the death of Ethelbert. The colors of the enamels are blue, green, yellow, white, and red.

The interior of *Bishop Audley's Chapel*, which opens into the library, "has a vaulted roof, groined with stone, and divided by small ribs into various compartments; the ground of which is painted blue; and the ribs red, with gilt edges. The centre orb has a representation of the Virgin Mary, gilt, and surrounded with a glory of the same: on the orb are the ancient and modern arms of the See, and also those of the Deanery; others are decorated with foliage, and various appropriate ornaments. A gothic screen separates this Chapel from the library, and is painted and gilt, to correspond with the ceiling. Nineteen saints and religious persons are represented on this screen, in a range above, and others form a series below; they are placed in compartments, or niches, under canopies; and the whole is well wrought in stone, and richly painted in various colours."

In the passage, or aisle, on the north side of the choir, projecting into the burial-ground, is the *Chapel* erected by Bishop Stanbury; the roof of which is vaulted, and adorned with sculptured niches, cinquefoils, and other devices. Some well executed foliage also ornaments the walls, which, on the north and west sides, are also decorated with shields; some of them allusive to scriptural subjects; and others displaying the arms of Stanbury, of the See and Deanery of Hereford, &c.

The general dimensions of this Cathedral are as follows: extreme length, 325 feet; from the west door to the choir, 130 feet; length of the choir, ninety-six feet; from the choir to the library door, twenty-four feet; length of the library, seventy-five feet; extent of the great transept, 100 feet; breadth of the nave and side aisles, seventy-four feet; breadth of the nave, thirty-eight feet; height of the body of the Church, ninety-one feet; height from the area to the vaulting, seventy feet.*

The *Sepulchral Memorials* in this structure are still numerous; though many were defaced, and swept away, at the Reformation; others were demolished in the time of the Civil Wars, when the library, and other parts, suffered greatly; many are concealed by

G g 4

the

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 581, 582. The length of the nave is now fifteen feet less than it was before the fall of the west front.

the pews in the north transept, "and more (*brassès*) were accidentally sold amongst the old materials, disposed of after the general repair in 1786: the last, which in a considerable degree might have supplied the want of appropriate decorations in the new part of the Church, were fortunately rescued from the furnace by a friend of the arts, and are now placed in the collection of Richard Gough, Esq."*

One of the most celebrated of the tombs, or monuments, is that to the memory of the Bishop, THOMAS CANTILUPE, who died in the year 1282, and was canonized in 1310. The reputed sanctity of this prelate occasioned his tomb to be visited by pilgrims and travellers from all parts of Europe; and it is still regarded with veneration by the *Catholics*. It is composed of free-stone, in the altar form, and had originally a figure or effigies of the Bishop, inlaid in brass, together with two tablets, and an inscription round the verge, of the same metal; but these are all lost or destroyed: above, over the whole tomb, is a low stone canopy, supported on each side by six trefoil arches, and by two at the west end; the end towards the east is attached to the wall: the arches rest on low circular pillars, with square capitals. Round the tomb, below these, under corresponding, but cinquefoil niches, are small full-length effigies of fourteen knights in armour, bearing shields: these figures have been much mutilated. Cantilupe is said to have been the last Englishman who obtained the honor of canonization; and Matthew of Westminster records that 163 miracles were performed at this tomb in a short space of time. So great, indeed, was the reputation which he obtained, that the succeeding Bishops of Hereford waved their ancient arms, which were *azure*, three crowns, *or*, and had been borne by Ethelbert, and the other Kings of the East Angles, in order to assume the paternal coat of Cantilupe, viz, *gules*, three leopards heads jessant, a fleur de lis, *or*; and these arms have been continued to the present time.†

Under

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 581. In that splendid work, the 'Sepulchral Monuments' by the above learned antiquary, several of the tombs, &c. in Hereford Cathedral, have been engraved.

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 470.

Under a lofty arch, which opens from the aisle of the above transept into the passage next the choir, is an altar monument in commemoration of BISHOP AQUA-BLANCA, whose effigies, mitred, and clad in episcopal robes, lies on the tomb beneath a stone canopy, "supported by twelve light pillars on each side, forming six compartments in the lancet form, and terminating in trefoil arches: above, are three quatrefoils; and still higher, as many trefoils, all in circles, under small painted canopies, ornamented with crockets, &c. The whole is a beautiful specimen of the rich and light effect of the pointed style of architecture: it was formerly gilt and painted in a costly manner; but is now of a plain stone color."* This Bishop died of the leprosy, in November, 1268: his heart was interred in a monastery, which he had founded at Aqua-bella, in Savoy, the place of his birth: several benefactions were made to the Church of Hereford by this prelate.

In the north wall of the Library, under recessed arches, are two ancient monuments, traditionally recorded to commemorate HUMPHREY DE BOHUN, Earl of Hereford, and his Countess; and, perhaps, with more justice than those attributed to the same persons in Gloucester Cathedral. Mr. Gough has observed, however, that the arms (now defaced) denote the husband to be a *Bohun*, though not an Earl of Hereford.† His effigies represents him in close armour, with the hands clasped on the breast, and a dog at his feet. Over him is a stone canopy, richly sculptured in the pointed style; and in front of the canopy are two human figures sitting; one holding a globe and a scroll, and the other with the hands clasped, as in prayer. The effigies of the Countess lies under a plain arch, on a tomb, the verge of which is studded with roses and human faces in alternate succession; she is habited as a nun, and has her hands clasped on her breast, and a dog at her feet. The Lady Chapel, says the antiquary just quoted, was probably erected by this lady, "as the ancient painting under the arch," shows her "in a nun's veil, as on the tomb, with a church
in

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 569.

† Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 452.

in her hand, and pointing to a Chapel at its east end, which she presents to the Virgin on her throne.”*

Under an arch in the south wall, and in which are two basons, or cavities, for holy water, is placed the mutilated effigies of a lady wearing a coronet: on her surcoat were painted the arms of England, which are now almost defaced: this figure was dug up some years ago in the entrance to this Chapel. Under another arch, in the same wall, lies the effigies of DEAN BEREW, or *Bore-rue*: on the front of the arch are several boars passant, with leaves of rue in their mouths, in allusion to his name.

In the passage on the east side of the choir, in arches of the walls, are altar monuments of several Bishops, with their effigies, episcopally habited; and also a large slab, beautifully inlaid with brass, in memory of: DEAN FROWCESTRE, who died in the year 1529. The effigies of the Dean is represented under a handsome canopy, richly adorned, and supported by saints: beneath, are Latin Verses on a tablet; and round the verge of the stone an inscription in black letter.

In the south end of the great transept is an altar monument, of alabaster, in commemoration of ALEXANDER DENTON, and ANNE, his first wife; their effigies are placed on the tomb, together with that of an infant in swaddling clothes. The lady died in 1566, in her eighteenth year, and was buried here, as appears from the inscription; which also represents this spot as her husband's grave, but erroneously, as he was interred at Hillesdon, in 1576, having married a second lady, who was likewise buried at the same place. Against the west wall of this transept is a handsome monument in memory of DEAN TYLER, who died in July, 1724; and of SARAH, his lady, who died in November, 1726.

In the Choir, and filling up nearly the whole space beneath one of the arches on the north side, is an elaborate monument to the memory of BISHOP BISSE, and BRIDGET, his Lady, who was daughter of Thomas, Duke of Leeds, and was Countess of Plymouth
by

* Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 452.

† Willis's Cath. Vol. I. p. 502.

by her first marriage: the former died in September, 1721; and the latter in May, 1718. In an arch on the north side of the altar, is the tomb of BISHOP BENNET, who died in October, 1615; and whose effigies lies under a canopy supported by black marble columns of the Corinthian order. Near this, on an altar-monument, is the effigies of Bishop BRAOSE, episcopally habited, and sustaining the model of a tower in his left hand: he died in November, 1215.

In the south aisle of the nave is an interesting, though mutilated tomb, in memory of SIR RICHARD PEMERUGE, or BRYDGES, an ancestor of the Lords Chandos, who was Knight of the Garter in the time of Edward the Third, and died in 1375. His effigies represents him in close armour, with his hands in the attitude of prayer, and a greyhound at his feet. The right leg of this figure having been broken off, and lost, its place has been supplied by a new one of wood, on which the mechanic has absurdly carved a second garter; not knowing that this badge of the Order is by etiquette confined to the left leg: the arms of the deceased are repeated round the tomb on several shields in quatrefoils. In the opposite aisle, under a pointed arch, with a cinquefoil top rising to a pediment; with gilt crockets and a finial, is the effigies of BISHOP BOOTH, clad in a rich episcopal habit, with his head reposing on a pillow, on each side of which is an angel: this prelate died in May, 1535.

Besides the personages already mentioned, many others of eminence have been interred in this Cathedral: among them are the following Bishops; the dates that follow their names were the years of their decease: Robert de Lozing, 1095; Raynelm, 1115; Galfrid de Clive, 1119; Robert de Betun, 1148; Robert de Melun, 1167; Robert Foliot, 1186; William le Vere, 1199; Mapenor, 1219; Swinfield, 1316; Thomas Charlton, 1343; Trilleck, 1361; Lewis Charlton, 1369; Trevanant, 1389; Stanbury, 1474; Mayo, or Mayew, 1516; Westfaling, 1601; Lindsell, 1634; Field, 1636; Croft, 1691; Butler, 1802. John Philips, the Poet, was also buried here, in the year 1708, at the age of thirty-two: an inscribed

slab, in the north part of the great transept, marks the place of his interment.*

“ Under the second window of the south aisle, is a curious and very ancient font, recently brought from another part of the Church: the diameter is nearly three feet, and the sides four inches in thickness, leaving a vacuity sufficiently large for the immersion of infants. On the outside are represented, in relief, the twelve apostles in as many niches, under Saxon arches, studded with the nail-head ornament, and supported on pillars with foliated capitals, and further ornamented with the spiral band, zig-zag, and other corresponding decorations. Over the figures of the apostles, which are fifteen inches in height, and much mutilated, is a broad band encircling the whole, marked in relief with a series of ornament, resembling the letter T, alternately inverted: the whole is of common stone, and supported on the backs of four sea-lions.”†

Almost all the buildings dependent on the Cathedral, are situated on its south side, where also was formerly a beautiful CHAPTER HOUSE, and a *Chapel* of very high antiquity. The former stood at a short distance from the end of the great transept, and was elegantly constructed in the pointed style of architecture. Its form was decagonal; and the roof was sustained in the centre by a single pillar, finely ornamented with figures, and other devices: the fan-work of the vaulting was extremely fine; the ribs sprung from stone arches resting on corbels between the windows. Beneath every window was a square compartment, containing five niches, in each of which was a well-painted figure, as large as life: these represented Our Saviour, the Apostles, and various Saints, Kings, Bishops, and other personages. The demolition of this structure was commenced during the Civil Wars, when it was stripped of its covering of lead, and exposed to the weather: its destruction was accelerated about the beginning of the last century

* The cenotaph to the memory of this Poet in Westminster Abbey, was erected at the expense of Sir Simon Harcourt, afterwards Lord Chancellor.

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 539.

tury by Bishop Bisse, (who pulled part of it down, in order to apply the materials to the reparations of the Episcopal Palace,) and has been wholly accomplished in the present, by the Chapter of Hereford, who have lately taken down the interesting remains.*

A more glaring example of worse than Gothic barbarity of taste, occurred here during the prelacy of Bishop Egerton, who procured a commission from the Archbishop of Canterbury to inspect the condition of the ANCIENT CHAPEL, which stood between the south side of the Bishop's Cloisters and the Palace. This Chapel was unquestionably Saxon, and of very early date. Dr. Stukeley has observed, that the architecture of the roof bore resemblance to that which prevailed during the declension of the Roman Empire.† Mr. Gough remarks, that it was not improbably antecedent to the Cathedral, as well as to the Palace:‡ and Browne Willis supposed it Roman work. It was wholly built of stone; the ground-plan, independent of the choir, and the space occupied by the west front, and its deeply-recessed entrance, formed a perfect square of about forty-two feet. The interior was divided into an upper and lower story; the roof was constructed with much skill, and supported by four massive columns, rising from the ground, and from which arches were turned every way: above the roof rose a square cupola, terminating pyramidically. The upper story, or Chapel, was dedicated to St. Magdalen, and had several pillars against the walls, formed of entire stones: the lower Chapel was dedicated to St. Catherine. The principal entrance was on the west, under a retiring arch, or series of arches, sixteen or eighteen feet deep; at the outward and inner extremities of which were columns of single stones ten feet high: there was also an entrance in the middle both of the north and south sides: the walls were three feet and a half thick. This interesting specimen of the architecture of remote ages, was returned, by the Vandals who examined it under the commission, as ‘ruinous and useless,’

* The annexed View represents the principal part of the Ruin as it appeared previous to the late removal.

† Iter. Cur. Vol. I.

‡ Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 452.

less; and orders were given by the Bishop for its demolition; though "it was well known at the time that less than 20l. would have put it into as good repair as it had been in during four hundred years!"* and so strongly were the stones cemented together, that after one-third of the Chapel had been taken down, the work of destruction was for that time relinquished, on account of the expense, which had even then amounted to upwards of 50l. Previous, however, to the year 1757, it must have been wholly destroyed; as the engraving in Taylor's Plan of Hereford, which was published in the spring of that year, describes it as 'a Chapel now taken down.' That the memory of such a venerable edifice might not be lost, a View of it was also engraved by the Society of Antiquaries, with a ground-plan.

The *Bishop's Cloisters*, which form the communication between the Cathedral and the Palace, inclose an area of about 100 feet square, appropriated to the purposes of sepulture, and distinguished by the name of *Our Lady's Arbour*: the arches of the windows are obtuse, but the windows themselves are diversified by various ramifications. The west side of these cloisters was destroyed in the time of Edward the Sixth, and a *Grammar School* erected on the site: this also having become greatly decayed, was taken down about the year 1760, and a larger building was erected on the spot by subscription, "under an engagement that, in addition to the uses of a school, it should be applied to the triennial meetings of the three Choirs of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, and to other public occasions: from this application it has been termed the *Music Room*." The materials of which it is built, are partly stone, and partly brick: its length is eighty feet, its breadth forty, and its height the same. This school has the privilege of presenting to fifteen scholarships at St. John's College, Cambridge, in turn with Manchester and Marlborough: it presents likewise to fifteen scholarships at Brazen-Nose College, Oxford. This school was founded in 1384, under the auspices of Bishop Gilbert.

The *Bishop's Palace* is an ancient building, pleasantly situated at a little distance from the banks of the Wye: its outward appearance

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 541.

ance is by no means prepossessing, though many of the apartments are fitted up with elegance; the gardens are extensive, and occupy a gentle declivity contiguous to the river. The *Deanery*, and *Prebendal Houses*, the latter of which are generally given to the residentiaries, are situated nearly opposite the north-east angle of the Cathedral, but display nothing remarkable. The *College* is a venerable pile of stone building, surrounding a quadrangle of about 100 feet, and appropriated to the uses of the Vicars Choral. This appears to have been erected about the time of Edward the Fourth, and principally from the benefactions of Bishop Stanbury, before which the Vicars Choral had their residence in Castle Street: besides the apartments for the vicars, it contains a spacious Common Hall, a small Chapel, and a Library; but the two latter are in a state of dilapidation. The *Cathedral-Yard* was long the burial-ground for all the parishes in the city, and for many of the adjacent out-parishes; but since the year 1791, the city parishes have each provided distinct places of interment.

The Members of Hereford Cathedral, are the *Bishop*, *Dean*, two *Archdeacons*, six *residential Canons*, including the *Dean*, a *Lecturer*, a *Chancellor* of the *Diocese*, a *Chancellor* of the *Cathedral*, a *Treasurer*, a *Sub-Treasurer*, a *Precentor*, twenty-eight *Prebendaries*, a *First and Second Master* of the *Grammar School*, a *Chapter Clerk*, twelve *Vicars Choral*, being priests, including a *Custos*, an *Organist*, *Seven Choristers*, a *Verger*, and two *Sextons*: the *Dean* and *residential Canons* constitute the *Chapter*.* The episcopal jurisdiction extends over the whole county of Hereford, with the exception of eight parishes, which form part of the diocese of St. David's; and also includes a very considerable portion of Shropshire, four parishes in Monmouthshire, eight in Radnorshire, six in Montgomeryshire, and twenty-one in Worcestershire. The present value of the Bishoprick is about 2000*l.* per annum.

Previous

* Duncumb's Collections. "The Dean and Chapter of Hereford, by their procurators, but the Dean and Arch-deacon in their persons, were summoned to attend Parliament, with the Nobles and Prelates of the realm, in the thirty-fourth and thirty-seventh years of Edward the Third, and twice afterwards." *Ibid.* from *Harl. MS.*

Previous to the Civil Wars, Hereford contained five distinct CHURCHES, besides the Cathedral, viz. St. Peter's, All Saints, St. Nicholas's, St. Martin's, and St. Owen's: the Church of St. John Baptist appears to have been at all times an appendage to the Cathedral. St. Martin's, and St. Owen's, were destroyed during the siege in 1645. *St. Peter's* was founded soon after the Norman Conquest, by Walter de Lacy, who had attended the Conqueror to England, and was rewarded for his services, with various manors and lands in Herefordshire, and other counties. After the completion of the Church, the founder was accidentally killed by falling from the battlements, as he was inspecting the work: this occurrence, according to the Monasticon, happened in the calends of April, 1085. Hugh de Lacy, son of Walter, A. D. 1101, gave this Church, with all its appurtenances, to the Abbey of St. Peter's at Gloucester, by which donation a religious fraternity, which his father had instituted here, in honor of St. Guthlac, became subject to that foundation, and was removed into Bye Street suburb. After the Dissolution, the great tythes of this Church were annexed to the revenues of the See of Hereford. No fewer than four Chantries had been founded here previous to the Dissolution: one of them, now the vestry, was originally open to the chancel; the piscina yet remains; as does also another piscina, in the north aisle, where the service of two of the chantries is supposed to have been performed. The nave is separated from the aisles by octagon columns on the south side, and by clustered pillars on the north. On each side of the chancel are seven ancient stalls, thought to have been designed for the use of the brothers of St. Guthlac's Priory: these are very elegantly carved into pannels, quatrefoils, &c. and have light and beautiful canopies of fret-work; the seats have carved figures beneath them, similar to those of the stalls in the Cathedral. This Church was repaired, and partly rebuilt, in the year 1793, at the expense of the parishioners. The rectory of St. Owen's was united to this in the time of Charles the Second, but the right of individual patronage was preserved.

All Saints Church was given, by Henry the Third, to the Master and Brethren of the Hospital of St. Anthony, in Vienna, who

appear to have formed a small society here to superintend their property, as early as the twenty-second of Edward the First.* This edifice consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower rising from the ground, and terminating in a lofty and well-proportioned spire: the tower overhangs its base considerably on the north side, but is sustained in its present situation by two new buttresses. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular columns, sustaining pointed arches: the roof is of timber, with ancient projecting angel brackets, pierced pannels, and pendants of foliage and flowers. Here are several stalls, supposed to have been appropriated to the brethren of the above society; the elbows exhibit grotesque carvings of men and animals; and the lower part of the seats are also filled with whimsical representations, particularly a monstrous caricature of a Monk: the canopies are light and elegant, and are beautifully ornamented with fret-work of quatrefoils, roses, and foliage. Here, as at St. Peter's, were four Chantries, the collective revenues of which were, at the period of their dissolution, of the estimated value of 20l. 1s. 6d $\frac{1}{2}$. per annum. Under the west end of this fabric, and contiguous to it, are several subterraneous passages and vaulted apartments. The south porch is embattled, and supported by buttresses; the entrance is under an open cinquefoil arch. St. Martin's, which is now annexed to this parish, was originally the Mother Church; as appears by a valuation made in the time of Edward the First, in which All Saints is distinguished as the Chapel. *St. Nicholas' Church* is a small edifice, consisting of a nave, north aisle, and chancel: this fabric has been recently repaired, but is still in a state of decay; and the chancel has the singular appearance of falling two ways, the north and south walls both leaning outwards. Here were two Chantries in honor of the Virgin Mary, endowed with lands to the amount of 9l. 11s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per annum. Besides the above places of divine worship, Hereford contains a Meeting House for each of the following denominations of sectarists; Methodists, Dissenters, Roman Catholics, and Quakers.

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H h

Various

* Duncumb from Prynne, Vol. III. p. 590.

Various Monasteries and religious houses existed in this city and its suburbs, previous to the Reformation; but most of them are now down, and the sites are occupied by other buildings. The oldest foundation, independent of that of the Cathedral, was a Community of Prebendaries in honor of St. Cuthbert; and whose Chapel, according to Leland, "was once a fayre building of a circular forme." These Prebendaries, according to the same author, were removed to St. Peter's Church, by Walter de Lacy, under the appellation of St. Guthlac's Fraternity; and from thence, as before mentioned, his son, Hugh de Lacy, again removed them into the Bye Street suburb, where a house was built for their reception, and afterwards obtained the name of ST. GUTHLAC'S PRIORY. Here the secular brethren, by a change in their ordinances, became a Cell of Benedictines, subordinate to St. Peter's Abbey at Gloucester, and so continued till the Dissolution, when the revenues were estimated at the annual value of 121l. 3s. 3¼d. and were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to John ap Rice, Esq. to be held in chief, on paying 8l. 12s. 0d. annually to the Crown. This Priory is represented in the Harleian Manuscripts to have been "very pleasant and large, having much land, spacious gardens and orchards, fine walks, a rivulet called Eigne running under the walles, with stately chambers and retirements, and a large and melancholy Chapel, built with many descents into it from the ground, and then of a great height in the roof." When this building was destroyed does not appear: its site continued in the possession of the Prices till the beginning of the last century, and again came into their possession in the year 1751; but was finally sold by them, in 1776, to William Symonds, Esq. of Hereford. This gentleman again disposed of it, in 1793, to the trustees appointed to erect a New County Goal and House of Correction; and a very extensive building, on the plan of the benevolent Howard, has since been constructed upon the spot.

On the north side of the city, beyond the Wide-marsh Gate, are some remains of a MONASTERY of BLACK FRIARS, or *Friar's Preachers*, who were originally established in the Port Field, beyond Bye Street Gate, about the year 1276, under the auspices of

William Cantilupe, brother to the Bishop Cantilupe. From this situation they were ordered to remove by the Bishop in 1279, through a dispute with the members of the Cathedral; and Sir John Daniel, or Deinville, having presented them with a piece of ground in Wide-marsh suburb, to which the Bishop annexed a second piece, they began to build a Church and Priory under the protection of their new patron; but he being afterwards beheaded at Hereford, in the time of Edward the Second, the work was suspended till the next reign. Edward the Third enabled them to complete the buildings according to the original design; and was himself present at the dedication of the Church, together with his son, the Black Prince, three Archbishops, and many of the nobility and gentry. This Friary became very flourishing, and many persons of distinction were buried here. On the Dissolution, the site and buildings were granted to John Scudamore, Esq. of Wilton; and William Wygmore, Gent. of Shoddon; but early in the reign of Elizabeth, they came into the possession of the Coningsby family, from whom the estate has descended to the present Earl of Essex.

The principal vestiges of this establishment are some decayed offices, and the remains of a CROSS, or *Stone Pulpit*, as it was originally built for the purpose of preaching from. The south side of the Prior's Lodgings is tolerably entire; it is sustained by three buttresses, and in the basement has two oblong windows, each divided by two pillars into three compartments, having cinquefoil arches: at the south-west corner is a circular tower. The wall on the north side is supported by four buttresses, but is much dilapidated; here part of the ruins are mantled with ivy. The *Cross* is constructed in the form of a hexagon, open on each side, and surrounded by a flight of steps, gradually decreasing as they ascend. In the centre is a base of the same figure, with two trefoil arches on each side, supporting the shaft of the cross, which, branching out into ramifications from the roof of the pulpit, and passing through it, appears above in a mutilated state: the upper part is embattled, and each angle is supported by a buttress. The picturesque effect of this beautiful remain is greatly increased by a large alder, which

has forced its way in four stems through the joints of the steps; and one branch twines round the pillar, and passes out through an arch of the hexagon.

About forty or fifty yards south-east from the ruins of the Black Friars is CONINGSBY'S HOSPITAL, a charitable foundation, began by Sir Thomas Coningsby, Knt. in the year 1614, on the site of a small *Hospital*, anciently belonging to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. Leland notices, that in "Wyde-mere Street, on the suburb without the north gate, ther was an Hospital of St. John, sometime an house of Templars, now an almes-house, with a chapel." This "was probably built in the reign of Richard the First, by whom it was given to the great preceptory of the order of St. John, at Dinmore, in this county, to which it seems to have been considered as a cell. On the expulsion of the order from England, in 1540, it came into the possession of the Crown, but was restored to the knights in the fourth and fifth years of Philip and Mary. At length it was finally wrested from them, and granted, in the sixth year of Elizabeth, to Robert Freke, and John Walker. Soon afterwards it was purchased by the Coningsby family; and Sir Thomas Coningsby, Knt. began the foundation on this spot, of a comfortable retreat, 'for two of the most valuable characters in society, (although generally the most neglected,) the worn-out soldier, and the superannuated, faithful servant.' The adjoining ruins of the Black Friars supplied the materials for the new edifice, which was constructed in the form of a quadrangle, and comprised twelve apartments, a chapel, hall, and suitable conveniencies. The previous occupation of the site by the Hospitallers, is expressly noticed in the deed enrolled in chancery, by Sir Thomas Coningsby, on this occasion: in this it is stated, by way of preamble, that, 'The said Sir Thomas Coningsby, &c. being seized in fee, of houses, lands, and parcels of the commandery, which were the inheritance of those knights of St. John of Jerusalem, formerly employed in the sustentation of Christian valour and courage, the said Sir Thomas ordained and constituted that all that quadrangle, or square building of stone, should be and remain an Hospital for ever, under the name of

Coningsby's

Coningsby's Company of Old Servitors, in the Suburbs of the City of Hereford.

“ Under this arrangement, the corporation of these new Knights Hospitallers, consists of a Corporal, Chaplain, and ten Servitors. The Chaplain must be a graduate in the University of Oxford, ‘ a preacher well read, and well spoken; and, above all, of honest and discreet conversation. Six of the Servitors are required to be soldiers of three years service at least, and natives of one of the counties of Hereford, Worcester, or Salop; and if six of this description should not be found, the deficiency is supplied by mariners, born as above, and of three years tried employment at sea: the other five old-serving men, of seven years service at least; and in want of better maintenance. One of the servitors being a soldier, is called the *Corporal* of Coningsby's Company, and acts as chief or Governor on the spot: but the owner in fee of Hampton Court (in this county) is considered and styled the Commander of the Hospital, and the Servitors are to address him by that title only, ‘ in memory of those worthy governors who once presided over the military society in this place.’

“ On the subject of apparel, the founder directed that each Servitor should have, on his admittance, a fustian suit of ginger colour, of a soldier-like fashion, and seemly laced: a soldier-like jerkin, with half sleeves; and a square shirt down half the thigh, with a *moncado*, or Spanish cap; a sword to wear abroad; a cloak of red cloth, lined with red baize, and reaching to the knee, to be worn in walks or journeys; and a gown of red cloth, reaching to the ankle, lined also with baize, to be worn within the hospital; and on the feast of Pentecost, every alternate year afterwards, a similar cap and jerkin were directed to be given to each member: the whole to be for ever of the said fashion as those delivered at the first admittance.”

The subsistence of each member is stated in the deed, “ to be two loaves of good wheaten bread, weighing four pounds each, weekly; two full ale-quarts of beer every day; also two cheeses of the best Shropshire sort, of forty pounds weight, and three gallons of good and wholesome butter, to be delivered yearly, together

with 100 faggots, not less than one yard in length, and thirty inches in compass. It was further directed, that there should be for ever kept, on good ground near the Hospital, such a stock of kine as would enable every member to purchase one quart of milk every day, at the rate of two quarts for one penny in the summer, and three pints for a penny in the winter. It was also appointed that on the festivals of Christmas, Candlemas, Easter, Whitsuntide, All Saints, and on every Sunday throughout the year, the members should have a dinner and supper in the Common Hall of the Hospital, out of the common stock, viz. a piece of beef roasted at dinner; and at supper, mutton and broth in a competent manner, with bread and beer beyond their weekly allowance; and a fire in the hall on those days, from All Saints tide to the first day in Lent. For their further maintenance, the Chaplain and Corporal were each allowed three shillings and fourpence per week in money, and every other Servitor two shillings and sixpence each; such payments to be made every Monday in the Common Hall, after prayers in the morning.”*

Sufficient endowments were given by the benevolent founder for these purposes; but, from the great alteration in the value of money, and increase in the price of the necessaries of life, it has been found expedient to consolidate the several allowances into money payments, and the Corporal now receives 1l. 13s. 4d. monthly, and each of the Servitors 1l. 1s. 8½d. The vicarage of Bodenhams, with all its appurtenances, was directed, by a codicil in the will of the founder, to be given to the successive Chaplains. Over the door in the centre of the Hospital, are two small Ionic pillars, inclosing a tablet, with the Coningsby arms; *gules*, three conies, *argent*, impaling those of Fitz-William, *lozenges*, *argent* and *gules*.† The front of the Chapel terminates with two arches, over which is the shaft of a cross: the inside is quite plain: a piece of garden ground is attached to each dwelling.

Near the river, and not far distant from Wye-Bridge, was a House of GRAY FRIARS, founded, according to Tanner, by Sir William

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 404—407.

† Ibid. p. 409.

William Pembrugge, Knt. in the time of Edward the Third; yet the Worcester Annals mention that it was flourishing as early as the year 1293. Many distinguished persons were interred here; and among others, according to Leland, the celebrated Owen Meredith, otherwise Tudor, who was beheaded at Hereford in 1461, and whose body was deposited, ‘*in navi ecclesie in sacello, sine ullâ sepulchri memoriâ.*’ Several of the Chandos and Cornwall families are also recorded to have been buried in this fabric. In the thirty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, the site and premises were granted to James Boyle, one of the ancestors of the noble family of Boyle, Earls of Cork, Ossory, &c. and whose progenitors were settled at Hereford as early as the reign of Edward the Third. No vestiges of the friary buildings are now standing: the last remains appear to have been pulled down about the conclusion of the seventeenth century.

Besides the above religious foundations, there were several others in this city, of which not any interesting particulars have been handed down. Among the *Charitable Establishments*, those of the most ancient date are ST. GILES'S HOSPITAL, and St. Ethelbert's Alms-house. The former stands without St. Owen's Gate, and was originally founded in the year 1290, for “Fryars Grisey, or Savignian Monks.”* It afterwards became the property of the Knights Templars; and being seized by the Crown, was given, by Richard the Second, to the city of Hereford, and appropriated to the purpose of an Alms-house. The endowments are applied to the support of five poor men, who are each allowed 4l. 10s. monthly; clothes every third year, &c. The Hospital was rebuilt in the year 1770, by voluntary subscription: a piece of garden-ground is attached to each residence. ST. ETHELBERT'S ALMS-HOUSE “was erected in the reign of Henry the Third, principally by indulgences and relaxation of penance, granted by the Bishops of Hereford, Coventry, Salisbury, and Ely, to those who contributed towards it.† The means of support must have been very considerable

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* Leland's Itin. Vol. IV.

† The following is given as the substance of two of these indulgencies: “The Bishops of Salisbury, Ely, and Coventry, grant indulgencies for fifteen

derable at one period, as it appears, by the statutes of the Hospital, that alms were distributed daily to 100 persons, '*ubi centum quotidie refectos fuisse, regimus.*' Possibly a portion of the offerings made by those who visited the tomb of Ethelbert, was appropriated to this purpose."* The revenues of this foundation, which now amount to 65l. per annum, are applied to the maintenance of ten poor women, each of whom has also an apartment and garden.

Several other *Hospitals* and *Alms-houses*, both for men and women, are distributed through this city and its suburbs; and various tablets of donations for the support of the poor, are hung up in the different churches. The relief of the sick has also been attended to in the establishment of a GENERAL INFIRMARY for the reception of seventy persons, with every convenience for attendants and nurses. The original promoter of this useful institution was the late Rev. Dr. Talbot, Rector of Helenswick. The spot of ground on which the Infirmary was built, was given by the late Earl of Oxford; and the expense of the building itself was defrayed by a very ample subscription, chiefly raised among the nobility and gentry of the county: the annual subscriptions in furtherance of the objects of the charity amount to about 400l. The Infirmary is pleasantly situated near the river, a short distance south-east from the Castle walks: it was first opened for the admission of patients on the twenty-sixth of March, 1776. The committee of subscribers, under whose superintendence the concerns of this establishment are conducted, has likewise the direction of the *Lunatic Asylum*, a building on the north-east of the Infirmary,

fifteen days relaxation of penance, to all who contribute towards the erecting an Eleemosynary dwelling near the Church of St. Ethelbert at Hereford, now building by the Dean and Chapter, and Elias de Bristol, Canon of Hereford, in the houses which belonged to Stephen, the son of Hugh; and also towards the support of the poor which resort to the said Alms-house."—"Hugh Foliot, Bishop of Hereford, grants an indulgence and relaxation of penance for twenty days, for all sins repented of and confessed, to such as contribute to the support of St. Ethelbert's Hospitall. Dated, 1231." *Price's Historical Account of the City of Hereford.*

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 432.

Infirmary, erected about twelve or fourteen years ago, for the reception of twenty patients afflicted with insanity: this also was instituted by subscription. The education of the youthful poor is provided for by a *Charity School*, partly supported by voluntary contributions, and partly by revenues arising from donations and legacies: here fifty boys, and thirty girls, receive instruction and clothing; and small sums are given to provide many of them with apprenticeships. The *Work-House* is a convenient building, without the Eigne Gate, established on a general plan by a union of the parishes, and governed under a system of judicious regulations.

Among the buildings of Hereford, that yet remain to be described, is the new COUNTY GOAL, which has been already mentioned as occupying the site of the Priory of St. Guthlac. This building was completed in 1797, under the superintendence, and from the designs of the architect, Mr. John Nash. It is inclosed within a high brick wall, having a handsome rusticated gateway, with Tuscan pillars: the Keeper's Apartments have also a rustic front and pediment. The prison itself is spacious, having a House of Correction, Work-shop, Inspection Room, Infirmary, Chapel, Debtors Rooms, &c. together with four Courts, having gardens in them. The expense of this edifice, which is strong, clean, and well regulated, amounted to about 18,650*l*. The *City Goal* bears marks of considerable antiquity, and formerly composed one side of Bye Street Gate, over which, in niches, were two rude representations of human figures chained. This Goal contains one small cell, and three very high apartments, with a window in each; the whole very dry and clean: a dungeon beneath, once used for the purposes of confinement, has been converted into a cellar, by the interposition of Mr. Nield; whose benevolence of heart has induced him to pursue the plan of the much-lamented Howard, and to descend into the depths of misery for the god-like purpose of alleviating distress.

The description of the CASTLE, in its ancient state, has been already given:* it is now almost obliterated, the only vestige of any part of the building, being a fragment at the south-west corner,

* See p. 444, 445, (note.)

ner, now converted into a dwelling. It seems probable, that this fortress was never effectually repaired after the siege in 1645, though it continued to be garrisoned till 1652, when the Parliamentary Commissioners returned it as 'ruinous,' and its materials as worth only the gross sum of eighty-five pounds. The area of the outer ward, called the Castle Green, is now surrounded by an elevated public walk, carried along the site of the walls, and much frequented from its pleasant situation: towards the north and east, this is shaded by a row of elms; and another walk, still more elevated, and forming a kind of semicircle, has been made on the site of the lower keep of the Castle. The mount in the upper ward, on which the principal keep was built, still bears the name of the Castle Hill.

The *Shire Hall*, which stands in the area called the *High Town*, nearly in the centre of Hereford, is supposed to have been erected in the reign of James the First, by John Abel, the 'expert Carpenter,' as he is called in the letter from the Governor Scudamore to Lord Digby,* who constructed the mills on which the safety of the city so much depended during the siege in 1645. This building forms an oblong square, its length being eighty-four feet, and its breadth thirty-four: it is composed principally of wood, and now consists of only one floor, supported on three ranges of pillars; but in its original state it had "a second floor, divided into apartments for the accommodation of the fourteen trading companies of the city, viz. Bakers, Barbers, and Barber Surgeons, Blacksmiths, Braziers, Butchers, Clothiers, Coopers, Cordwainers, Glovers, Joiners, Mercers, Tanners, Tylers, and Weavers:"† this floor was removed from motives of safety. Under the Shire Hall, the markets for grain and fish are held: at the east end is the Butcher's market; and at the west end, the poultry and butter markets.

Very considerable improvements have been made in the appearance of Hereford since the year 1774, when an Act of Parliament was obtained for the inclosure of about 150 acres of waste lands

on

* See p. 457, (note.)

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 414.

on the north side of the city, and which formed part of the tract called *Wide-marsh*; the other part having been inclosed as early as the reign of Henry the Eighth. Under the powers vested in the Commissioners by this Act, proper allotments were made to the various claimants; and ten acres of land having been set apart for the purpose of electing the Knights of the Shire, exercising the Militia, and other public uses, the residue was let on lease, and the produce applied to the discharge of the expenses incurred by "lighting, paving, pitching, and repairing the streets, lanes, and passages," of Hereford and its suburbs. "In dividing the whole, care was taken by the Commissioners, that a series of narrow inclosures, in the form of a circle, and connected by temporary fences, should be left as a *Race Course*; and they are still applied annually to that purpose."* A very obvious improvement, however, is yet wanting; that is the removal of the irregular mass of wooden buildings termed the Butcher's Row from the uses to which they are applied, and which greatly impede the thoroughfare between St. Peter's Church and the Shire Hall. Some of these houses are of remote date, and curious in appearance; the principal beams in front being ornamented with tracery, and other carved work.

"In the jurisdiction which has prevailed in the city of Hereford, the Bishops appear to have retained a more than common share of the civil authority. Nearly half of the city, together with a considerable portion of the suburbs, form a district entitled the *Bishop's Fee*; within this district the Bishops have enjoyed very considerable privileges; and on particular occasions, their authority has altogether superseded that of the civil magistrate, by extending over the whole city. As Lords of this fee, they exercised the ancient rights denominated from the Saxon, *Infangenethef*, and *Utfangenethef*; by which they administered justice within their limits, and committed offenders to the custody of their own officers, in their own peculiar prison, which was situated within the walls of the Episcopal Palace. By *Chol* and *Cheame*, or *Theame*, they

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 412.

they restrained and judged bondmen and villains, with their children, goods, and chattels; and by *Sac* and *Soke*, their tenants were excused from the payment of customary burdens and impositions. They also held an annual fair for the sale of merchandize within their fee; during its continuance, their power extended to all parts of the city; the markets were transferred from the usual places to that appointed by the Bishop; and a Porter was sworn at each of the city gates, to collect the tolls for his use. A Bailiff was annually elected by a Jury, together with a Serjeant at Mace, Leathersearchers, and Ale-Conners: they regulated the assize of bread and beer; and courts-baron, leet, and pipoudre, were held; and presentments, and other usual business, formally transacted."* Some of these privileges are recorded as long standing, even in a charter of Edward the Confessor.†

The original charter of the fair mentioned in the preceding extract, was granted by Henry the First, about the year 1189, in commemoration of St. Ethelbert. It is still continued, with many of its formalities, and is annually proclaimed on the nineteenth of May, being the eve of the feast of that Saint. From the length of its duration, which includes the eve and whole octave of St. Ethelbert,

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 294.

† *Ibid.* The limits of the Bishop's Fee do not appear to be distinctly known, as several persons, at different times, have been nominated Bailiffs, and afterwards excused serving the office, by alledging, that they occupied no lands or tenements within the Fee: of late years, perambulations have been rarely made; and no record of the boundaries has been discovered. The names of Bishop's *Gate*, and *Street*, now abbreviated into *Bye Street*, and *Bye Street Gate*, seem to allude to the episcopal jurisdiction in that district; and the north end of Broad Street, in its name of *North Gate*, although centrically situated in the city, perhaps indicates the limits of the Bishop's Fee in that direction. In these and other parts, small sums, after the manner of chief rents, are annually paid to the Bishop; but the houses and lands within his Fee are so intermixed with others which do not acknowledge his jurisdiction, that it is impracticable to offer an accurate description of the limits. *Ibid.* p. 312.

bert, it has obtained the name of the Nine-Day's Fair; and during this period, the Bishop's Bailiff, according to the ancient custom, acts as Civil Magistrate; and on the Sunday preceding, attends the Cathedral and Palace with a Mace-bearer, and other officers, in procession. Besides this fair, four others are held at Hereford annually.

The extensive privileges thus possessed by the Episcopal See, have in former ages caused many disputes between the Bishops and the inhabitants of the city; disputes which generally terminated in the triumph of the Church, and the submission of the people. Since the rights of mankind, however, have been more understood, the exercise of most of these privileges has been silently abandoned, and the general laws of the country have superseded the coercion of an independant authority in opposition to admitted principles; and though the Bishop's Courts are still held, "the business transacted, consists of little more than the formality of swearing in a Jury, electing a Bailiff, and Serjeant, and presenting and amercing all who owe suit and service; and having been summoned, do not appear. The offices of Porters, Leather-searchers, and Ale-tasters, have long been discontinued."*

The original incorporation of Hereford has generally been attributed to King John; but in the great roll of Henry the Third, in the second year of his reign, A. D. 1218, the inhabitants are stated as indebted to the Exchequer in the sum of 110 marks and two palfreys, in return for a charter from that King, which not only granted them the town at the former fee-farm rent of 40*l.* per annum, but also allowed them to have a guild and society of merchants and traders, with other privileges usually attached to a guild; and further: exempted them from tolls, and various customary payments. This appears to have been the first regular grant of privileges to the inhabitants of Hereford as an incorporated body; although it is probable that King John might have conferred some privileges on them, as well as on the members of the Church.†

"The

* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 311.

†. Ibid. p. 345.

“ The original charter of privileges granted to the inhabitants of Hereford, as an incorporated body, by Henry the Third, was confirmed, and occasionally enlarged, in the eighth of Edward the Second, the first and fifth of Edward the Third, and the seventh of Richard the Second, when the name of *Bailiff*, which had before been given to the chief Magistrate, was changed to that of *Mayor*.”* This charter was further confirmed by succeeding Princes to the time of James the First, who, in a new charter of confirmation, consolidates the privileges of the inhabitants, and ordained that the Corporation should thenceforth consist of a Mayor, Alderman, and Common Council, having a chief Steward, a common Clerk, a Protho-notary, a Sword-bearer, and four Sergeants at Mace: the Common Council to consist of thirty-one persons, including the Mayor, and six Aldermen. This charter was wrested from the inhabitants in the reign of Charles the Second; but was afterwards restored towards the conclusion of the reign of his bigotted successor, and confirmed by William the Third in the ninth year of his reign: under its provisions, the city has ever since continued to be governed.

The first return of members to Parliament made by this city, was in the twenty-third of Edward the First: the expense of supporting them was defrayed by a levy, one moiety of which was raised on the inhabitants within the King's fee; and the other, on those within the Bishop's, Canons', and St. John's Fee.† The right of election is vested in the freemen only; their number is supposed to amount to about 1200. The freedom of Hereford is acquired by serving a regular apprenticeship to a freeman resident within the liberties; or by marrying a freeman's widow, or the eldest daughter of a freeman, having no male issue: the eldest sons of freemen are also entitled to their freedom, after going through certain forms of admission.

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* Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 355.

† MS. of Mr. Thomas Hearne in the Collection of the late J. Walwyn, Esq. M. P. as quoted by Duncumb, Vol. I. p. 348.

The situation of Hereford on the banks of the Wye would be extremely favorable for its trade, if the navigation of that river was less precarious; but this is so entirely dependant on the state of the weather, that it cannot be made to answer the purpose of regular conveyance. The principal manufacture that is carried on here, is that of gloves, which is tolerably flourishing; and some progress has recently been made in the manufacture of flannels: hats are also made by a few manufacturers. Between thirty and forty years ago, an attempt was made to establish a manufactory of carpets, broad and narrow cloth, kerseymeres, &c. but the death of one of the parties, and a want of sufficient encouragement, occasioned it to be given up a few years afterwards. About the same period an attempt was made to instruct the poorer classes in the art of spinning wool; but this design failed through some mismanagement; and the sum of 500*l.* that had been advanced by the trustees, from a fund for 'employing the poor of the city,' the original stock of which was bequeathed by Lord Viscount Scudamore in the year 1763, was irrecoverably dissipated. The sum originally bequeathed was 400*l.* and this having been put to interest on mortgage, &c. has now accumulated to the amount of upwards of 3000*l.* notwithstanding the above loss.

The *Wye Bridge* was founded as early as the time of Henry the First, and at his particular request; Bishop Richard, who held the See from the year 1120 to 1127, contributing materially to the work.* The present bridge is supposed to have been constructed about the end of the fifteenth century: it consists of six arches; one of which was rebuilt after the siege in 1645, the former one having been destroyed to prevent the approach of the Scots. The same materials were employed in its construction, but its height was considerably reduced, from which cause the bridge has an irregular appearance.

The

* *Pons factus super vagam apud Herefordiam tempore Henrici primi, ipso rege imperante, et piis elemosinam ad tam utile opus erogantibus. Facta hæc partim consilio domini Ricardi, episcopi Hereford: qui præcessit Roberto Betune episcopo. Leland's Itin. from Osbert de Clare's Life of St. Ethelbert.*

The *Theatre* of Hereford has some claims to notice, from having been the nursery of a Clive, a Siddons, and a Kemble: its direction, indeed, was for many years in the Kemble family, who had long been inhabitants of this city. The present Theatre is a very neat modern building, standing on the west side of the Broad Street; and having a pediment ornamented with busts, &c. Other sources of amusement are derived from Assembly Rooms, with balls and occasional concerts. The population of Hereford, as returned under the act of 1801, amounted to 6828; of which 3023 were males; and 3805 females: the number of houses at the same period was 1460.

Many persons of considerable eminence have been born in this city: among those whose celebrity has been most distinguished, are Roger of Hereford, Bishop Miles Smith, John Guillim, John Davies, Richard Gerthinge, Eleanor Gwynn, Gen. Stringer Lawrence, Captain James Cornwall, and David Garrick. ROGER OF HEREFORD was a distinguished writer in the time of Henry the Second. "He excelled in the knowledge of astronomy, as then understood, and published a Treatise on the subject, which was highly commended. Metals and minerals were equally the objects of his studies; and the nobility of England, in their patronage of this writer, materially contributed to the progress of those sciences which were recommended to notice by his example, and illustrated by his abilities."

MILES SMITH, D. D. whose talents were the means of his advancement to the See of Gloucester, was the son of a *fletcher*, or maker of arrows, in this city. He was born in the year 1550, and was entered at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1668; but afterwards removed to Brazen-Nose. Here he pursued his studies with such indefatigable attention, that, besides obtaining a complete knowledge of the Fathers, and Jewish writers, he obtained a thorough acquaintance with the Greek, Latin, Chaldaic, Syriac, Arabic, and Hebrew languages. James the First employed him in the Translation of the Bible; and to him and Bilson, Bishop of Winchester, was the revisal of the whole committed: the preface itself was entirely his own; and was deposited in his own handwriting,

writing, in the University Library. In 1612, he was promoted to the See of Gloucester, over which he presided twelve years; and dying in 1622, was buried in Our Lady's Chapel, in his own Cathedral.

JOHN GUILLIM, the celebrated herald, was born about the year 1565. "The early part of his education was received at the Grammar School in this city, from which he was removed, in 1581, to Brazen-Nose College, Oxford. Soon after his views in literature were completed at the University, he was appointed Portsmouth Pursuivant of Arms in the London College. In the year 1610, he published his *Display of Heraldry*, in folio, which, by a methodical and lucid arrangement, removed the obscurity that had previously involved the subject, and reflected the greatest credit on the perseverance and abilities of the writer: many editions of this work have been published; and it still retains its original esteem. He was made Rouge Croix Pursuivant in February, 1617; and held that office until his death, which happened the seventh of May, 1621."

JOHN DAVIES, a celebrated penman, was engaged as Writing-Master to Henry, Prince of Wales, son of James the First. "In the skill and acquirements of his profession, he had no competitor, being equally eminent in copying the various hands then in use, and particularly distinguished by an extraordinary quickness in writing the running hand." It is recorded by Granger, that his characters were so small as to require a magnifying glass to read them; and Fuller observes, they were so correct, that it required some time to decide whether they were written or printed. He died at London, in the year 1618. RICHARD GERTHINGE was a scholar of Davies's, and is said to have excelled him in all the branches of the art. The quaint Fuller, in his commendation of these artists, has advanced into a strain of hyperbolism, not easily to be paralleled. "I am sure," says this writer, "that when two such transcendant pen-masters shall again be born in the same shire, they may even serve fairly to engross the will and testament of the expiring universe!"

ELEANOR GWYNN, or, as she was more familiarly denominated, *Nell Gwynn*, was born in a humble dwelling in Pipe-Lane; but becoming an inhabitant of the Metropolis, was engaged in the service of a fruiterer, and in that profession she first appeared in the lobby of a Theatre. The sprightliness of her temper, and the affection of a manager, introduced her upon the stage, and she quickly became a general favorite. Even the Monarch himself, the laughter-loving Charles the Second, was interested by her vivacity and humour, and made her a partner of his bed. She did not, however, immediately quit the Theatre, but still continued to display her talents in the airy, fantastic, and sprightly effusions of the Comic Muse. "At this period (1670) she was delivered of a son, who was afterwards created Duke of St. Albans; and her grandson attained the honours of prelacy, and became the proprietor of that very Episcopal Palace which almost adjoined the humble cot where his maternal ancestor first drew her breath." In the high, and, at that period, not disgraceful situation in which she was placed, she displayed great liberality, and obtained a very considerable degree of popular approbation. Even to the present day, her memory has been cherished with a greater portion of general esteem, than is commonly obtained by the mistresses of a profligate Monarch. Her errors have vanished in the blaze of her munificence; and her generosity in promoting the establishment of Chelsea Hospital, will preserve the remembrance of her name to the latest ages: even the idea of that admirable institution is traditionally said to have originated with her. She died at her house in Pall Mall, in the year 1691.*

STRINGER LAWRENCE, an eminent military officer, was born in the year 1697: the scene of his exertions was the East Indies, where he attained the rank of Major General, and was one of the first to introduce a proper degree of discipline among the soldiery. His talents greatly contributed to the preservation and extension of the Empire in India; and on his death, in 1775, the East India Company, in gratitude for his very eminent services, were at the expense

* For additional particulars of this celebrated female, see Vol. I. p. 314, 342; and Vol. V. p. 619.

expense of erecting a handsome monument to his memory in Westminster Abbey.

JAMES CORNEWALL, an intrepid naval commander, who lost his life in the memorable engagement off Toulon in February, 1743-4, was descended from an ancient and honorable Herefordshire family, and was born in the year 1699. He very early attained a respectable situation in the navy, and, after several appointments, was promoted to the command of the Marlborough, a first rate of ninety guns, then with the fleet in the Mediterranean, under the command of Admiral Matthews. Repairing to his station, he had soon an opportunity of signaling his bravery, and in the subsequent battle, between the English squadron, and the combined fleet of France and Spain, both his legs were struck off by a chain-shot, as he was gallantly receiving the fire of the whole Spanish line, in order to cover the Admiral's ship, the Namur, which had been disabled in the fight. Though thus mortally wounded, with the spirit congenial to his country, he refused to quit the deck, and continued the engagement till he was killed by the fall of the main and mizen masts, which were shot away by the board. His fate was lamented by every class; and even the triumphant enemy declared, that at least 'one British Captain had on that day honorably maintained the glory of his nation.' His memory has been consecrated by a monument erected at the public expense in Westminster Abbey.

DAVID GARRICK, an actor of inimitable powers, was born at the Angel Inn, in Widemarsh Street, in the year 1717. His father, who was a French Refugee, had at that period a lieutenant's commission in a regiment of horse then quartered in this city; but the place of his general residence was Lichfield, and thither young Garrick and his mother were removed, as soon as the latter had recovered her health. His education was liberal, though principally intended to fit him for mercantile pursuits, and was partly obtained at the Lichfield Grammar School, and partly received under the tuition of Dr. Johnson; who, at a subsequent period, accompanied his pupil to London, in search of the means of existence. Garrick, who had previously been an assistant in the

wine trade, to his uncle, a Lisbon merchant, embarked in the same business with his brother in the Metropolis; but a passion for the stage, which he had early imbibed, at length induced him to engage in the theatrical profession; and under the assumed name of Lyddal, he made his first public appearance, at the Ipswich Theatre, in the summer of 1741, in the Character of Aboan, in Oroonoko. His success was great; and at once determined him to make the stage his ultimate pursuit. In the December following, he appeared at London, at the Theatre in Goodman's Fields, in the character of Richard the Third. His performance of this arduous part obtained general applause; his fame spread with distinguished rapidity; and the 'new star in the east,' as he was called in the metaphorical language of the day, became the universal centre of popular admiration. Even in a sister country his talents proved equally attractive; and such crowds attended his performances at the Dublin Theatre, in the summer of 1742, that the confined air combining with the heat of the weather, produced a fever which proved fatal to many, and was distinguished by the name of Garrick's Fever. His next engagement was at Drury Lane, of which Theatre, in 1747, he became joint-patentee with Mr. Lacy, and opened it in the ensuing winter under his own management. His exertions were accompanied with every degree of success till the season of 1754, when the enmity of vulgar prejudice was excited by his having engaged a number of foreigners to fill up the parts in various new dances and balls which he had projected to introduce. The piece first prepared was entitled the 'Chinese Festival.' Aware of the intended opposition, he obtained a kind of sanction for its performance from the King, George the Second, by whose *command* it was once played, without any particular disturbance. On the second night, however, the clamour increased to riot, and the inside of the Theatre was rendered a complete ruin, the benches being torn up, the lustres and girandoles broken, and the scenery destroyed. Even the life of the manager himself was in some danger; and the protection of the soldiery was necessary to preserve his house from demolition. In this state of affairs, it became requisite that the piece should be
withdrawn

withdrawn for ever; and proper explanations being published, the tumult subsided, and Garrick again became the general favorite. In 1763, his health being impaired, he made the tour of France and Italy, and on his return introduced some considerable improvements in the modes of conducting the business of the stage. In 1776 his increasing infirmities compelled him to abandon his profession as an *actor*, and his retirement was universally lamented: his last performance was the character of Don Felix, in the *Wonder*. In January, the same year, he sold his moiety of the theatre to the present R. B. Sheridan, Esq. and two others, for 35,000*l*. He died on the twentieth of January, 1779, at his house in the *Adelphi*, after an afflicting illness of several years. He was buried at Westminster Abbey, where a monument has been lately erected to his memory, inscribed with an elegant epitaph from the pen of the author of the *Gleanings*. Considerable praise is due to Garrick from his judicious revival of many old plays, particularly Shakespeare's: he was himself the writer of several dramatic pieces of merit, besides numerous prologues and epilogues of distinguished excellence.

About one mile north-westward from Hereford, on an angle of the road formed by its branching off in two directions, the one towards Stretford Bridge, the other towards Hay, is the remains of a stone cross, generally called the *WHITE CROSS*. The base consists of an hexagonal flight of seven steps, measuring ten feet each in length at the bottom, and gradually decreasing with the ascent, each step being eleven inches in height, and twelve in breadth. The first and only remaining stage of the shaft, is also hexagonal, its height being six feet, and the breadth of each face two feet, exclusive of a pillar between each. In these sides are as many niches, which contain shields, bearing a lion rampant: the niches are under pointed arches, supported on small columns. Above is an embattled parapet, with the mouldings and base of a second division of the shaft; but this, with all the upper part, has been long destroyed: the entire height, in its present state, is fifteen feet.

The traditionary account of the origin of this Cross, ascribes its erection to Bishop Cantilupe, who is said to have been returning

towards Hereford, from his palace at Sugwas, when the bells of his Cathedral commenced ringing without any human agency, and that, in commemoration of such a miraculous event, he built the Cross on the spot where the sounds had first attracted his notice. Mr. Duncumb, however, has suggested another occasion of its construction, and which, in all probability, is the true one. In the year 1347, he observes, "an infectious disorder ravaged the whole county of Hereford, and, as usual, displayed the greatest malignity in the places most numerous inhabited: this created a necessity of removing the markets from Hereford, and the spot of waste ground, on which the cross now stands, was applied to that purpose. In memory of this event, Dr. Lewis Charlton, who was consecrated Bishop of Hereford a few years afterwards, caused this Cross to be erected: the lion rampant was the armorial bearing of this prelate, and is repeated on his monument in the Cathedral, with a similarity which so strictly pervades the whole architecture of the tomb and the cross, as to afford the strongest presumption that this was the real origin of the cross described."*

On the south-east side of the Wye, about two miles below Hereford, is ROTHERAS, or *Rotherwas*, the seat of Charles Bodenham, Esq. whose family have made it their chief residence during three centuries. The mansion is a spacious and handsome fabric; it was erected by the grandfather of the present possessor: near it is a decayed Chapel, and extensive offices, which belonged to the ancient manor-house. The grounds are pleasant, and the adjacent woods display some fine timber. The prospect on the south-west is terminated by an eminence called DYNEDOR HILL, on which are vestiges of an ancient *Camp*, traditionally said to have been occupied by the Roman General, Ostorius Scapula. The views from

* Collections, Vol. I. p. 399. As this, perhaps, is the last time we shall have occasion to quote this valuable work, we must here be permitted to discharge the debt of gratitude, by an acknowledgment of the very material assistance derived from it in the preceding description of Herefordshire. We trust that the reverend author will be enabled to complete his history, as it will form a very interesting addition to the stores of Topographical literature.

from this eminence are extremely fine: on the north-west, Hereford is seen rising with an easy ascent from the banks of the Wye; and beyond it is spread out a beautiful vale, diversified with many interesting objects, and bounded by the mountains of Brecknockshire: in the horizon, in the north, and north-east, are the Clee Hills of Shropshire; and towards the east, the Malvern Hills of Worcestershire: on the south-east, and south, is a pleasant and variegated country, animated by the meanderings of the Wye: on the south-west appear the Hatterel Hills, or, as they are more generally called, the Black Mountains. Dynedor Hill is cultivated to the extreme verge of the Entrenchment, the bank of which is covered with underwood; the inclosed area is a large corn field, and several cottages are scattered at the sides.

HOLM-LACEY is a venerable seat belonging to Charles Howard, Duke of Norfolk, who obtained it in marriage with Frances, daughter and heiress of Charles Fitzroy Scudamore, Esq. together with various other valuable estates in this county and in Gloucestershire. The *Scudamores* came into England with the Conqueror, and originally settled at Upton, and Norton, near Warminster, in Wiltshire, but removed to Holm-Lacey in the reign of Edward the Third, after the marriage of Thomas, younger son of Sir Peter Scudamore, with Clarice, daughter of Lady Clara, of the family of the Lacies, to whom this estate had previously belonged. The Scudamores derived their name from the *Cross Patée Fitchée*, the *Scutum Armoris Divini*, which they originally bore as their arms, and which is thought to have been given them in commemoration of some memorable action in defence of the Christian Faith. Many of this family have been employed in distinguished offices; and some of them have been recorded as eminent patrons of literature. Sir James Scudamore, father of the first Viscount Scudamore, is the legendary 'Sir Scudamore,' of Spenser, whose tale, in the fourth book of the *Fairy Queen*, is particularly interesting. In the fifth Canto he is represented as lying down to rest in the house of the blacksmith, Care;

But wheresoere he did himself dispose,
He by no meanes could wished ease obtaine;
So every place seemed painefull, and ech changing vaine.

And evermore when he to sleepe did thinke,
 The hammers' sound his senses did molest;
 And evermore when he began to winke,
 The bellowes noyse disturb'd his quiet rest,
 Nor suffered sleepe to settle in his brest.
 And all the nighte, the dogs did barke and howle
 About the house at scent of stranger guest;
 And now the crowing cocke, and now the owle
 Lowde shriking, him afflicted to the very sowle.

And if by fortune any litle nap
 Upon his heavie eye-lids chaunst to fall,
 Eftsoones one of those villeins him did rap
 Upon his head-peece with his yron mall,
 That he was soone awaked therewithall,
 And lightly started up as one affrayd,
 Or as if one him suddenly did call:
 So oftentimes he out of sleepe abrayd,
 And then lay musing long on that him ill apay'd.

* * * *

In such disquiet and heart-fretting payne,
 He all that night, that too long night did passe,
 And now the day out of the ocean mayne
 Began to peepe above this earthly masse,
 With pearly dew sprinkling the morning grasse;
 Then up he rose like heavie lumpe of lead,
 That in his face, as in a looking-glasse,
 The signes of anguish one mote plainly read,
 And guess the man to be dismay'd with gealous dread.

John, created Viscount Scudamore, by Charles the First, was highly respected for his piety and learning. He was the particular friend of the Duke of Buckingham, and was so affected at the untimely death of that nobleman, that he relinquished his public employments, and retired to Holm-Lacey, where he quieted the emotions of sorrow, by attending to rural affairs, and has been recorded by Philips, as the first that brought the Red-Streak apple into general esteem. In 1634 he was called from his retirement, and sent

Ambassador to France, where he continued several years, conducting the business of his mission with much prudence and effect. On the breaking out of the Civil Wars, he took a decided part in favor of the King; and having been made prisoner by Waller at Hereford, his estates underwent a temporary sequestration, and he was himself deprived of his liberty for a considerable period. He died in 1670. His grandson, the last Viscount Scudamore, rebuilt the greatest part of the manor-house at Holm-Lacey about a century ago. He was the friend of Pope, who had been introduced to Lady Scudamore by her relation, Mr. Digby: she was the only daughter of Simon Lord Digby.

The good taste of the Duke of Norfolk, the present possessor of this seat, permits the mansion to remain unaltered, as a perfect specimen of the style of building preferred by our immediate ancestors: we can still survey the apartments which Pope so frequently visited, and where he wrote his 'Man of Ross,' in the same state as formerly. The family portraits, and the elaborate carvings by Gibbons, but little inferior to those at Petworth and Chatsworth, are still a part of their venerable ornaments. A mansion like this, preserved in a complete state from the incongruities of modern alteration, may be ranked among our national curiosities. The apartments are decorated with many valuable paintings, by Vandyck, Jansen, Holbein, and other artists of eminent merit. In the Saloon is a very conspicuous portrait of SIR JAMES SCUDAMORE, equipped for a Tournament, that splendid and frequent diversion of the reign of Elizabeth. Here is also a very capital picture, by Hamilton, of *Solomon and the Queen of Sheba*, who are represented as after their first interview, in a gorgeous palace, attended by the High Priest; in the back-ground are several characteristic figures, with a group of musical girls of truly eastern form and elegance: a very rich arcade adds to the magnificence of the whole picture. The subject of this picture is happily chosen, the design is correct, and the coloring is rich and transparent; it has been exactly copied in stained glass by Eginton, for a window in the superb Castle at Arundel, which is now rising, under the auspices of the Duke of Norfolk, to almost unexampled grandeur.

Among

Among the other pictures, are those of **LOUIS THE THIRTEENTH**, and his **QUEEN**; the latter is depicted in the attitude of nursing her infant, afterwards Louis the Fourteenth. These were given to the Lord Scudamore, when Ambassador in France, in the time of Charles the First; they were executed by Beaubrun, the court-painter of Paris, and the cotemporary of Vandyck, but with few pretensions to rivalship. In the Cabinet is a sketch of the head of the great Lord Strafford, copied in crayons from Vandyck, by Pope, who not only amused himself with poetry, when a guest at Holm-Lacey, but also with painting: this, with the exception of the portrait of Betterton, the tragedian, in oil-colors, which he gave to the late Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, and which is now at Caen Wood, is supposed to be the only proof remaining of the poet's talents as a painter.*

The grounds at Holm-Lacey are very pleasant: the old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and with a very spacious terrace. The yew trees, which are disposed in strait lines, having been originally clipped into grotesque shapes, and for many years left to regain their foliage, very nearly resemble the cypresses of a Turkish cemetery. Near the Parsonage House is a remarkable *Pear Tree*, covering nearly a quarter of an acre, and forming an orchard of itself. For many years together its fruit has yielded from twelve to sixteen hogsheads of Perry.

Nearly

* Few of the English poets have cultivated the sister art with any great success. Flatman is noticed in Walpole's Anecdotes. Butler is said to have been a painter; but Dr. Nash, the Worcestershire Historian, who had seen them, speaks contemptuously of his performances. Dyer, the author of *Grongar Hill*, studied at Rome, and practised portrait-painting, but not happily. At Lord Harcourt's, at Nuneham, Mason has painted an altar-piece; the subject is the Good Samaritan, but the execution by no means equals the design. We have lately had an example of the reverse; Shee, in his 'Rhymes on Art,' exhibits an instance of a painter gathering roses from the heights of Parnassus, and with tolerable success. Tresham, and Hoppner, also, have occasionally quitted the easel for the reed, and drawn from it a not unpleasing melody.

Nearly opposite Holm-Lacey, on the east bank of the Wye, is the pleasant village of FOWNHOPE, about half a mile to the north of which is an eminence crowned by an ancient *Camp*; and about twice that distance to the north, is a second *Camp*, occupying the summit of another eminence, called CAPLER HILL: the latter *Camp* is double trenched, and called *Woldbury*; the former has no distinct appellation. The Capler Hill is finely wooded; and from its summit the prospects are extensive and rich: the contiguous channel of the Wye forms a striking feature.

FAWLEY COURT, about two miles southward from Capler Hill, is a venerable mansion of the time of Queen Elizabeth, and anciently belonged to Sir John Kyrle, an ancestor to the 'Man of Ross:' it is now the seat of ——— Money, Esq. a descendant by the female line from the same family. The entrance, great hall, and dining parlour, are entire, and in good repair: a handsome farm-house has been formed from the offices.

In this neighbourhood the Wye meanders in a very singular manner, altering its course into completely opposite directions, within a very few miles. Inclosed by one of these reaches of the river, below Fawley, is INGESTON HOUSE, an old and spacious brick mansion, long the residence of the Hoskyns family, and recorded as the place where Sergeant Hoskyns entertained James the First, by causing the Morrice Dance to be exhibited before him by ten old people, natives of Herefordshire, whose collective ages amounted to more than 1000 years.

On the banks of the Wye, nearly opposite to Ingeston, at a place called the HOLE IN THE WALL, are the remains of some ancient building, consisting of the foundations of some well-built walls, with huge stones lying about: the site is now partly occupied by many cottages. What is now shown as the *Hole in the Wall*, is an excavation formed in the rocky bank of a neighboring garden; but the spot is so overgrown with brambles, as to be difficult of access. When complete, it consisted of a flight of steps leading downwards to a cavity, sufficiently capacious to contain about twenty persons: the roof was supported by a single pillar. The entrance to this retreat has fallen in, and the steps are now overgrown, and almost obliterated. On the ascent from the Hole
in

in the Wall towards Old Gore, is a hollow, extending about a hundred paces, in which, about thirteen or fourteen years ago, many *Celts* were turned up by the plough. These instruments were nearly of the same size, and had evidently been cast, as the marks of the mould were visible; some of them were rudely ornamented with two or three stripes at the sides: they were made of a semi-metal, nearly as bright as brass. One of them appeared to have been finished to a polish.

About a mile lower down, on the Wye, is another of the numerous ancient *Camps* that form a chain on the eminences in this part of the country. It occupies the summit of EATON HILL; the entrenchments are very perfect and deep: the area is cultivated, and intersected with hedges. A farm-house at Eaton displays vestiges of an ancient mansion; and the ground about it is called the *Park* of Eaton.

ROSS

Is situated upon a rock, considerably elevated above the river Wye, and on its eastern bank: to those who travel over the causeway from Hereford, it assumes a very commanding and picturesque appearance: scars of the rock jut out from the green banks, and the whole is surmounted by the Church, which is surrounded by lofty trees, and exhibits its 'heaven-directed spire' from the highest point of the eminence. The origin of this town does not appear to be remote, though a few coins and medals have been found here; but not more than one or two of the Roman times, and those probably originally brought from the ruins of *Ariconium*. In the summer of 1804, a copper medal, in excellent preservation, and of considerable beauty, was picked up from a heap of rubbish: it had been struck in commemoration of the triumph of Trajan over the Daci. On one side was a head of that Emperor, with an appropriate inscription; and on the other, the representation of a horseman at full speed, darting a missile weapon at a recumbent figure. The interest of Betun, Bishop of Hereford, to whose See this manor was attached, procured the grant of a market for Ross from King Stephen; and Henry the Third constituted it a free borough. Camden only notices it as famous for its iron-works,

The

The annals of this town record no events of eminent historical interest; yet the adventitious lustre which it has obtained from its inhabitant, JOHN KYRLE, the celebrated 'Man of Ross,' has given it a degree of attraction far beyond its local importance. This distinguished model of benevolence was born at Whitehouse, in Dymock Parish, in Gloucestershire.* The exemplary tenor of his actions, his extensive charities, and goodness of heart, procured him the love and veneration of all his cotemporaries; and happily for his fame, Pope, during his visits at Holm-Lacey, obtained a sufficient knowledge of his beneficence, to render due homage to his worth in his Moral Essays. The glowing colors of the poet's description, were in this instance, at least, attempered by the pencil of Truth; cold must be the heart that could relate in prose what Pope sung.

" Who hung with woods yon mountain's sultry brow?
 From the dry rock who bade the waters flow?
 Not to the skies in useless columns tost,
 Nor in proud falls magnificently lost,
 But clear and artless, pouring through the plain
 Health to the sick, and solace to the swain.
 Whose causeway parts the vale with shady rows?
 Whose seats the weary traveller repose?
 Who taught that Heav'n-directed spire to rise?
 'THE MAN OF ROSS,' each lisping babe replies!
 Behold the Market-place with poor o'erspread!
 The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread:
 He feeds yon alms-house, neat, but void of state,
 Where age and want sit smiling at the gate:
 Him portion'd maids, apprentic'd orphans blest;
 The young who labor, and the old who rest.
 Is any sick? the Man of Ross relieves,
 Prescribes, attends, the med'cine makes and gives.
 Is there a variance? enter but his door,
 Balk'd are the courts, and contest is no more.
 Despairing quacks with curses fled the place,
 And vile attorneys, now a useless race.

* * * * *

* See Vol. V. p. 705.

Of debts and taxes, wife and children clear,
 This man possest five hundred pounds a-year.
 Blush, Grandeur, blush! proud courts, withdraw your blaze!
 Ye little stars! hide your diminish'd rays."

The house in which Mr. Kyrle resided, is now the King's Arms, a respectable Inn, near the entrance of the town from Gloucester; and a tolerable portrait of him is preserved here: the original likeness is in the possession of Lord Muncaster.* He died in 1724, at the age of eighty-four, and was buried in Ross Church: on his monument is a medallion of Charity supported by Benevolence. The *Prospect Ground*, as it is called, adjoining the Church-yard, and the Walk that extends thence for nearly a mile to the southward, were formed by his liberality; but they are not preserved in that order which his memory demands. The Prospect Ground is now merely a field, yet enough remains to show that he intended it for a parterre; and the Walk has been deprived of many of the trees that formerly shaded it, together with the seats for the 'weary traveller's repose:' the Summer House, also, at the termination of the Walk, is now in a state of decay. Along the edges of the rock which forms the foundation of this natural terrace, the Sand Martin digs his hollow nest: "this guest of summer," as Shakespeare observes of another bird of the same genus,

—— "Does approve

By his lov'd mansionry, that the heaven's breath
 Smells wooingly here:—
 Where they most breed and haunt, I have observ'd,
 The air is delicate."

MACBETH.

The peculiar salubrity of the air at Ross may be further illustrated by referring to the longevity of its inhabitants, not only in living instances, but in many memorials among the tombs in the Church and Church-yard, where numerous inscriptions record the memory of those who have attained to their eightieth, ninetieth, and even hundredth year.

The

* Bonner's Perspective Itinerary, No. II. p. 19, (note.)

The *Church* is a handsome building, having a tower, and well-proportioned spire, rising from the west end. It contains several monuments of the *Rudhalls*, the ancient proprietors of the manor of Rudhall, in this neighbourhood: among them are those of Judge Rudhall, and his lady, of the time of Henry the Seventh; and of Sir Richard Rudhall, who was knighted at Cadiz in the reign of Elizabeth. In the window over the altar, among other fragments of painted glass, is one representing a Bishop, with the inscription *Thomas Herefordensis*, in black letter. The views from the Church-yard, and contiguous Prospect Ground, are much celebrated: immediately below the eye, the river forms a fine semicircle, at one of the extremities of which are the ruins of Wilton Castle, and beyond it an extensive and luxuriant vale, terminated by the distant mountains of Pembrokeshire. The principal near feature of this view, however, the course of the river, is hereafter likely to be lost, as the water encroaches so much every winter upon the southern bank, that even Wilton Bridge may probably in a few years be left dry, and the Wye form for itself a new channel over the causeway between the bridge and the town.

Ross is governed by a Sergeant, and four Constables. The streets are mostly on a descent; and are extremely rough and narrow, the houses appearing huddled upon each other. The *Market-House* is in a very decayed state, though erected so lately as the reign of Charles the Second: it is built of stone, and ascended by several steps; the upper part is sustained on semicircular arches, supported by three ranges of pillars, the space between them being open. The Bishops of Hereford had at one period a *Palace* here, on a plot of ground near the Church-yard; but this was in ruins even in Leland's time: the site is still called the Bishop's Court. The population of Ross, as returned under the late act, amounted to 2347; the number of houses to 553. Since the beauties of picturesque scenery have engaged so much popular attention, this town has become a kind of favorite resort for the numerous summer parties who visit the Wye; and boats, &c. are kept here for the accommodation of those who make an excursion down the river.

Opposite to Ross, on the western bank of the Wye, are the ruins of WILTON CASTLE, for several centuries the baronial residence of the *Greys*, of the south, who derived from it their first title, and who became owners in the time of Edward the First. Its present demolished state was owing to the Royalist Governors of Hereford, by whose orders it was burnt to the bare walls during the reign of Charles the First, and in the absence of its then possessor, Sir J. Brydges. The remaining towers display a luxuriant mantling of ivy.

About three miles to the east from Ross, and nearly one mile to the south of the road leading from Gloucester, is ROSE, or BURY HILL, the undoubted site of a Roman station, the ARICONIUM of Antoninus, which Camden, and other antiquaries, have placed at Kenchester; but which Horsley, on unquestionable grounds, removes to the neighbourhood of Ross; though the particular spot of its situation had not, in his time, been assigned. The distance of *Bury Hill*, or *Ariconium*, from *Glevum*, (Gloucester,) and *Blestium*, (Monmouth,) very nearly accords with those given in the Itinerary, viz. fifteen miles from Glevum, and eleven from Blestium. Camden records a tradition of the station Ariconium having been ruined by an earthquake, and on this base, Philips, in his Poem on Cyder, has raised the following beautiful superstructure.

In elder days, ere yet the Roman bands
Victorious, this our other world subdu'd,
A spacious *City* stood, with firmest walls
Sure mounded, and with num'rous turrets crown'd,
Aërial spires, and citadels, the seat
Of Kings, and heroes resolute in war,
Fam'd ARICONIUM; uncontrol'd and free,
Till all-subduing Latian arms prevail'd.
Then also, tho' to foreign yoke submiss,
She undemolish'd stood; and ev'n till now,
Perhaps, had stood, of ancient British art
A pleasing monument, not less admir'd
Than what from Attic or Etruscan hands
Arose, had not the Heav'nly pow'rs averse
Decreed her final doom: for now the fields

Labor'd

Labor'd with thirst, Aquarius had not shed
 His wonted show'rs, and Sirius parch'd with heat
 Solstitial, the green herb :—hence 'gan relax
 The ground's contexture, hence Tartarian dregs,
 Sulphur, or nitrous spume, enkindling fierce,
 Bellow'd within their darksome caves, by far
 More dismal than the loud-disploded roar
 Of brazen engin'ry, that ceaseless storm
 The bastion of a well-built city, deem'd
 Impregnable: th' infernal winds, till now
 Closely imprison'd, by Titanian warmth
 Dilating, and with unctuous vapours fed,
 Disdain'd their narrow cells, and their full strength
 Collecting, from beneath the solid mass
 Upheav'd, and all her castles, rooted deep,
 Shook from their lowest seat: old Vaga's stream,
 Forc'd by the sudden shock, her wonted track
 Forsook, and drew her humid train aslope,
 Crankling her banks :—and now the low'ring sky,
 And baleful lightning, and the thunder, voice
 Of angry gods, that rattl'd solemn, dismay'd
 The sinking hearts of men. Where should they turn,
 Distress'd? Whence seek for aid, when from below
 Hell threatens, and e'en Fate supreme gives signs
 Of wrath and desolation? Vain were vows,
 And plaints, and suppliant hands to Heav'n erect.
 Yet some to fanes repair'd, and humble rites
 Perform'd to Thor and Woden, fabled gods,
 Who with their vot'ries in one ruin shar'd,
 Crush'd and o'erwhelm'd. Others, in frantic mood
 Ran howling thro' the streets; their hideous yells
 Rend the dark welkin: Horror stalks around
 Wild-staring, and his sad concomitant,
 Despair, of abject look: at ev'ry gate
 The thronging populace, with hasty strides
 Press furious, and, too eager of escape,
 Obstruct the easy way; the rocking town
 Supplants their footsteps; to and fro they reel
 Astonish'd, as o'ercharg'd with wine; when, lo!
 The ground adust her riven mouth disparts,
 Horrible chasin profound! With swift descent

Old Ariconium sinks, and all her tribes,
 Heroes and senators, down to the realms
 Of endless night. Meanwhile the loosen'd winds,
 Infuriate, molten rocks, and flaming globes,
 Hurl'd high above the clouds, till, all their force
 Consum'd, her ravenous jaws the earth satiate clos'd.
 Thus this fair city fell, of which the name
 Survives alone: nor is there found a mark
 Whereby the curious passenger may learn
 Her ample site, save coins and mouldering urns,
 And huge unwieldy bones, lasting remains
 Of that gigantic race, which, as he breaks
 The clotted glebe, the ploughman haply finds,
 Appall'd. Upon that treacherous tract of land
 She whilom stood, now Ceres in her prime
 Smiles fertile.—

Whatever degree of truth may accompany this effusion, it is certain, that the appearance of the soil at Bury Hill is very different from that of the adjacent country, which is inclined to red, while this is of an extremely dark hue. The area on which the city stood, according to tradition, occupied three or four fields, and several acres exhibit this darkness of soil. About forty or fifty years ago, great part of the ground was in an open and rough state, with heaps of rubbish overgrown with briars; but the proprietor, a Mr. Merrick, to whose brother it now belongs, resolved to inclose and level it; and in so doing, many antiquities were found, together with an immense quantity of Roman coins, and some British.* Among the antiquities, were fibulæ, lares, lachrymatories, lamps, rings, and fragments of tessellated pavements. Some pillars were also discovered, with stones having holes for the jambs of doors; and a vault or two, in which was wheat, of a black color, and in a cinereous state. The surface is now very little undulated; but a few coins may yet be picked up, when, after

* The circumstance of *British* coins being found here, is inserted on the authority of Mr. Dunster: see his edition of Philips's Cyder, second note, p. 20.

ter ploughing, the clods are broken by a gentle rain: and innumerable pieces of grey and red pottery lie scattered over the whole tract, some of them of patterns by no means inelegant. The coins are chiefly of the Lower Empire; some of Constantius and Trajan, have been found; many of Tetricus, and one of Antoninus Pius: on the reverse of the latter, is the Emperor habited as a High Priest, pouring out the contents of a patera upon an altar, over which is the sun, with the legend SACEDOS DEI SOLIS: the coins are of copper, silver, and gold.

Some of the large stones found among the ruins of this station, and which appear to have been used in building, display strong marks of fire. During the course of the last summer, in widening a road that crosses the land, several skeletons were discovered; and also the remains of a stone wall, apparently the front of a building; the stones were well worked, and of considerable size. The earth within what appeared to have been the interior of the building, was extremely black and shining: numerous pieces of pottery, bones of men and animals, and bits of iron, were dug up here. The adjoining lands are thickly strown with scoria of iron ore; some of considerable size: these, indeed, are scattered throughout this part of the country; in some places they lie in large heaps; they are most probably the produce of Roman bloomeries, and were connected with the works in the neighbouring Forest of Dean. A piece of land near this station bears the name of *Kill-Dane-Field*, though from what particular battle tradition is silent. For a gentle eminence, Bury Hill commands the view of an extensive range of country: to the south, rise the rival hills of Penyard and Chace; and westward is the whole fertile tract of Herefordshire, bounded by the mountains of Monmouth and Brecon.

The site of ECCLESWALL CASTLE, about one mile south-westward of Bury Hill, is now occupied by a modern mansion. This estate belonged to the Talbots, from whom it came into the possession of the Greys, Lords of Wilton; but it has since passed from their descendants into other hands.

Ascending from Weston, on the Ross road, through the wood that clothes the steep sides of Penyard Hill, the traveller comes to the very sequestered site of PENYARD CASTLE, which stood

on the south side of the eminence. This fortress, originally but of small extent, is now reduced to comparative insignificance; the only part now honored with the name of Castle, is the habitation of a woodward, who lives here in complete seclusion from the haunts of man. This humble dwelling has a pointed window, and an octagonal embattled chimney: in the garden, which occupies part of the area of the fortress, some massy fragments of wall may yet be seen, together with groined arches, and vestiges of pillars. In clearing the space for the garden, many human bones were discovered, interred beneath a mass of small tiles, forced obliquely into the ground; and in digging among the ruins, a few years ago, a kind of "vestibule, or spacious passage," was found, "with octagon pilasters, which have caps and bases in the Saxon style, from which spring semicircular groined arches, with handsome mouldings in sharp preservation."*

When this fortress was built is unknown; it appears to have been constructed for the purpose of defending the narrow pass through the woods from Gloucestershire towards the counties of Monmouth and Pembroke, by the way of Walford and Goodrich. Whoever might have been its original founders, it appears that the Lords of Goodrich Castle, were also at times the Lords of Penyard Castle; and among others, the celebrated *Talbots*, Earls of Shrewsbury.† It was demolished in the Civil Wars. After the Restoration, it belonged to Anthony, Earl of Kent; but has since passed through several hands, and is now the property of William Partridge, Esq. of Goodrich. The family of Spence, of Hangwest, in Yorkshire, are recorded to have assumed, about the year 1638, as their arms, 'azure, three *Peny-yard* pence, proper.' Guillim supposes these coins to have been minted at this Castle, and with much probability; as silver pence, of a particular coinage, are sometimes found here.‡

Mention

* Bonner's Perspective Itinerary, No. II. p. 15, (note.)

† A fine stone figure of a *Talbot*, about three feet high, represented in a sitting position, was found in this Castle, and now sustains a sundial in the garden of a gentleman at Ross.

‡ An engraving of a Penyard silver penny may be seen in Bonner's Itinerary.

Mention is made in old writings of *Penyard Park*, and **CHACE**; the latter name is still retained by an eminence which rises on the west of the Castle, and is finely covered with oaks. On the summit of the Chace, towards the north, is a large square *Camp*, now partly overgrown by woods. The walk between Penyard Castle and Ross is very beautiful; though, from its retired situation, it is seldom trodden by strangers. A gradual descent winds along the woody heights, having the bold eminence of the Chace, covered with oaks, on the left, and an undulating vale in front, extending to the hills of Monmouthshire and the Black Mountains: through this the Wye pursues its mazy course. On emerging from the wood, the spire and town of Ross appear below, surrounded by a rich country, finely wooded, and variegated with orchards. The effect is considerably heightened by the approach of evening; when the sun is seen retiring behind the distant mountains, and throwing its last gleams upon the river, while the glowing vale is sinking into darkness.

Between three and four miles from Ross, on a finely-wooded promontory, round which the river Wye flows in a semicircular direction, stand the massive ruins of **GOODRICH CASTLE**, for a long period the baronial residence of the Talbots, Earls of Shrewsbury. By whom it was originally founded is unknown; though the near affinity of its name to that of '*Godricus Dux*,' who occurs as a witness to two charters granted by King Canute to the Abbey of Hulm, has given birth to a not improbable conjecture, that he was the person. The *Keep* is evidently of a date antecedent to the Conquest; but the surrounding works are principally Norman; though various additions and alterations may be distinguished of the workmanship of different periods, even down to the time of Henry the Sixth.

In its general form, this Castle composes a parallelogram, with a round tower at each angle, and a square keep standing in the south-west part of the inclosed area. The common thickness of the exterior walls is somewhat more than seven feet: in various places they are pierced with oilet holes, of the form represented

beneath.* The length of the longest sides, that is, those towards the south-east and north-west, including the projections of the towers, is about 176 feet; that of the south-west and north-east sides, about 152 feet.

The Keep, which, being of the highest antiquity, merits precedence in description, stands somewhat in the same manner as those at Porchester, Pevensey, and Castleton, close to the outward wall of the Castle, and, like them, had no window on the outside next the country. It had evidently three rooms, one above the other; all of them, however, were very small, being only fourteen feet and a half square; and the room on the first floor had no sort of communication within, with the dungeon beneath, which had not even a single loop-hole for light and air, but was connected by a very narrow passage to a still smaller dungeon, strongly secured, under the platform belonging to the steps of the entrance, and having a very small air-hole on the same side. "The original windows are the most truly Saxon that can be: that in the middle of the upper story seems to have remained just as it was from the very first, without any alteration; and the manner in which the two large side columns stand somewhat *within* the arch, is consistent with the fashion which was adopted by the Saxons, and continued even to the time of Edward the Confessor. The large zig-zag ornament on each side (between the columns) is in the rude form in which it was generally used by the earliest Saxons; and so also is that of the zig-zag moulding, or band, that is carried by way of ornament quite across the tower, just under this window; and it is very remarkable, that the middle projecting buttress is carried no higher than this ornament."† The window in the apartment beneath, is similar, in its general construction; but the columns which support the arch, are somewhat higher; and a semi-circular



† Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. III. p. 250. The description of Goodrich Castle, in this elaborate work, is illustrated by several plates and ground-plans.

circular moulding of zig-zag is carried beneath the arch: the middle part of the window has, however, been altered, a stone frame for glass having been inserted of the style and age of Henry the Sixth; and probably in the time of the celebrated Earl Talbot, whom tradition represents as having his *own* chamber in this tower. In this second apartment is a fire-hearth; and in an angle of the wall, a circular stair-case, leading to the upper story. "To this stair-case is a most remarkable door-way; it has one large transom-stone, as if to aid the arch to support the wall above, and in this respect resembles several other Saxon structures, in which this strange kind of fashion seems to have been uniformly adopted; until it became gradually altered by the introduction of a flattish *under arch*, substituted in the room of the transom-stone."*

The principal entrance was by a flight of steps on one side, distinct from the main building, and ascending to a platform before the door-way leading to the second chamber. The entrance to the dungeon, or lower apartment, was under a "very remarkable sort of pointed arch, formed of quite flat sides, which seems, from the appearance of the wall around it, and from its peculiar style, to have been inserted many ages after the tower was built, and in the time of Edward the Third; a suspicion that appears to be most strongly confirmed, by the circumstance, that about the twenty-second year of the reign of Edward the Third, Richard Talbot, its then Lord, obtained the Royal licence† for having in his Castle a

K k 4

prison

* Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. III. p. 252.

† "Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. I. p. 327. In the Archæologia, Vol. IV. p. 403, I took occasion to remark, that grants for Castles to become state-prisons, were, indeed, in the early Norman times, very usual; but that we must by no means conclude, that, by such a *grant*, the whole Castle became a prison, just as we find some old Castles to be now entirely converted into prisons; for the fact most unquestionably was, merely that, in consequence of such grant, the *usual dungeon of the Castle* was, by *Royal authority*, appointed to be a *public* and privileged prison at *all times*; whereas the dungeons of other Castles were permitted to be used as such only in time of war; but the upper apartments

prison for malefactors; having also the cognizance of pleas of the Crown, &c. within his Lordship of Irchenfield (or Urchenfield) and Wormilow. The bottom of the Keep tower would undoubtedly, as usual, be the place where such a prison would be established; and on that occasion, it should seem, therefore, that this new and strong door-frame was first there placed: whilst the very annexation of the Lordship of Urchenfield to the possession of this Keep tower, (both of which his Lordship appears to have been possessed of before this license was granted,) shows the exceedingly high antiquity of this Castle; since Urchenfield was, indeed, the very place where St. Dubricius founded his College of Religious, about 512, to live, like the original Eastern recluses, by the work of their own hands.** The body of the Keep is an exact square of twenty-nine feet.

In describing the additions made to this fortress in the Norman times, and during the successive reigns, to the time of Henry the Sixth, we shall follow the plan pursued by Mr. King, and nearly in his words, begin with the very strongly-fortified entrance, which, commencing between two semicircular towers of unequal dimensions, near the east angle, was continued under a dark vaulted passage to an extent of fifty feet. Immediately before the entrance, and within the space inclosed by the fosse, was a very deep pit, hewn out of the solid rock, formerly crossed by a draw-bridge, which is now gone, but which evidently appears to have exactly fitted, and to have closed, when drawn up, the whole front of the gateway between the towers. About eleven feet within the passage was a massy gate, the strong iron hinges of which still remain: this

ments of these Keep towers, in which the dungeons were, continued in both cases to be constantly used as state apartments for the residence of the Lords of the mansion, notwithstanding the prison underneath. And hence, perhaps, arose the practice, in early times, of committing *state prisoners* to the custody of different Lords at pleasure; which custom was continued down to the time of Henry the Eighth, and even to that of Queen Elizabeth, when the origin of it was forgotten."

* Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. III. p. 251.

this gate, and the draw-bridge, were defended on each side by loop-holes; and over head by rows of machicolations in the vaulting, for pouring down melted lead, &c. on the heads of assailants. Six feet and a half beyond this, was a portcullis; and about seven feet further, a second portcullis: the space between these was again protected by loop-holes and machicolations. About two feet more inward was another strong gate; and five feet and a half beyond this, on the right, a small door, leading to a long narrow gallery, only three feet wide, formed in the thickness of the wall, and which was the means of access to the loop-holes in the eastern tower, as well as to some others that commanded the brow of the steep precipice towards the north-east. These works appear to have been thought sufficient for general defence; but a resource was ingeniously contrived for greater security in case they had all been forced; "for a little further on are massy stone projections in the wall on each side, like pilasters; manifestly designed for inserting great beams of timber within them, like bars, from one side of the passage, which was about nine feet ten inches wide, to the other, so as to form a strong barricado, with earth or stones between the rows of timber, which would in a short time, and with rapidity, form a strong massy wall." Beyond these the passage opened into the great inner court.

The ruins of the Chapel run parallel with the entrance on the left; the style of the broken ornaments, and particularly of those about its great window, show this to have been repaired and adorned even so late as the reigns of Henry the Sixth and Seventh: in one part is a very remarkable niche; and near it a smaller niche for holy water: on the opposite side is also another niche for the same purpose. Beneath the Chapel was a deep vault; and over it a chamber, with a fire-place, which still appears projecting from the wall. Adjoining the Chapel, and near the entrance, is a small octagonal watch-tower, which rises above the other buildings, and commands a fine view over the surrounding country.

The buildings between the Chapel and the south or garrison tower, to the upper part of which a passage, or covered way, led along the top of the outer wall, are mostly in ruins: here appear

to have been the stables. The garrison tower adjoins the entrance to the keep; its foundation is a square of about thirty-six feet; but the three outward angles diminish as they ascend, and form triangular buttresses, so that the upper part of the tower is circular: the walls are at least eight feet in thickness. The entrances to this tower was so contrived, that there was access to it from every part of the walls; it contained three floors, and in each of them a fire-hearth: the interior forms an irregular octagon, about twenty feet in diameter from the angles, and about seventeen from side to side.

The wall that extended between the keep and the west or great tower, is in ruins: this tower, which is also greatly dilapidated, appears of more modern construction than the former, and is probably of the time of the Edwards. Its outward form is circular; but the interior is somewhat of an octangular figure, but very irregular; the general dimensions being thirty-three feet long, and twenty-five broad. In this appears to have been the great kitchen; the fire-place is still distinguishable; with a recess and loop-hole on each side: here was a small door-way, or sally-port, communicating with a sort of outer ballium, which run on the north-west side, and was inclosed by an outer wall. On this side also, and ranging between the west tower and north or Ladies' tower, were the State apartments. The Hall was a magnificent room of the time of Edward the First, as clearly appears from the style of the architecture of its remains, and particularly from the long, slender and narrow windows. This apartment was sixty-five feet long, and twenty-eight feet broad: some years ago it contained a single beam of oak 'without knot or knarle,' sixty-six feet long, and nearly two feet square throughout its whole length. On the north-west side is the great fire-place; and behind it, projecting into the outer ballium, a vast mass of solid stone-work, or kind of buttress, which, in its upper part, appears to have had some little apartment, or guard-chamber.

The Hall communicated towards the north with a kind of withdrawing or retiring room, about twenty-nine feet by seventeen and a half, in which appears to have been a window looking into the

Hall. From this second apartment, a passage led into what seems to have been the Great State Room, which was fifty-five feet and a half long, and twenty broad. At the upper end, or that towards the north, are two beautiful pointed arches, springing from a well-wrought octagon pillar in the middle of the apartment, and resting on corbels at the sides: here seems to have been two large windows; but the walls are so much broken, or closely mantled with ivy, that this cannot with certainty be affirmed. The architecture of this part of the building is of the time of Henry the Fifth or Sixth. At the north angle of this room is an opening leading into the north or Ladies' tower, which is so situated on the brow of a high and steep precipice, as to be the most defensible part of the Castle: from the apartment within, which is a neat octagon arch, about fifteen feet in diameter, is a most beautiful view over the adjacent country. From the common appellation of this tower, there can be little doubt of its having been appropriated to the use of the fair sex. Beyond the State Room, in the north-east wall, is a square recess, and loop-hole, supposed to have been formed for the lodging and seat of the Warden.

Such is the general construction of Goodrich Castle; but almost every part has yielded to the iron tooth of age, and to the more speedy demolition of war. The ruins, however, are extremely grand; the massive towers are finely mantled with ivy; and even the great ditch is embellished with the luxuriant foliage of tall forest trees: from the adjoining grounds, the crumbling turrets have a very striking and interesting effect; as they have also when seen from the water, from which the view has been truly characterized as one of the grandest upon the Wye: the prospects from several parts of the Castle itself are extremely fine.

Whoever was the original founder of this Castle, "whether Godricus Dux, who witnessed King Canute's charters, or any chieftain prior to him," it is certain that the earliest authenticated record concerning it at present known, is of the date of 1204, when it was given by King John to William Strigul, Earl Marshall, to hold by the service of two knights fees; his son, Walter, Earl of Pembroke,

broke, died here in the year 1246.* It was afterwards conveyed by a female to William de Valentia, Earl of Pembroke, whose third son, Aymer de Valance, became his heir, and was murdered in France in 1323. From him it passed to the Talbots, by the marriage of Elizabeth Comyn, daughter of Joan, his second sister, with Sir Richard, afterwards Lord Talbot, who procured the license from Edward the Third to have a prison here.† This Richard was a renowned soldier and statesman, and is thought to have expended a considerable part of the ransoms obtained from prisoners taken by him in the French wars, on the reparation and improvement of Goodrich Castle. His descendant, John Talbot, the great Earl of Shrewsbury, who was killed at the battle of Castillon, in the year 1453, was first buried at Rouen, in Normandy; and in the enumeration of his titles, on the monument there raised to his memory, he is styled, ‘ Lord of Goderich and Orchenfield.’ His successors were equally distinguished for bravery,

* Brooke’s Catalogue, p. 272.

† In the pedigree of the Earl’s of Shrewsbury, given in Jacob’s Peerage, it is asserted, that, temp. Edward the Third, “ Elizabeth Comyn,” (wife of Richard Talbot,) who is there said to be one of the sisters and co-heirs of John, Lord Comyn, “ was forcibly seized at Kennington, in Surrey, by Hugh le Despenser, Earl of Winchester, Hugh le Despenser, Junior, and others, and first carried to Woking, and thence to Parfrith, in that county, and so detained above a year; during which time she was, by menaces of death, constrained to pass her manor of Painswicke, in the county of Gloucester, to the said Earl; and the Castle of GODERICH to Hugh, the younger, to them and their heirs.” Mr. Grose, who seems to question the accuracy of this statement, has by so doing provoked the asperity of Mr. Bonner;* though the latter, in defending Jacob, has fallen into the still more unpardonable error of making the Spensers exist at least thirty years after they were put to death! The date of this event is, indeed, a sufficient refutation of Jacob’s assertion, as it now stands; for it was not till after the time of the execution of the Spensers, the one at Bristol, the other at Hereford, that Edward the Third ascended the Throne.

* Perspective Itinerary, No. II. p. 9—11.

very, and were frequently employed in offices of great trust: George, the sixth Earl, had the custody of Mary, Queen of Scots, committed to his charge. By Gertrude, daughter of Manners, Earl of Rutland, his first wife, he had issue four sons, and three daughters. His second wife was Elizabeth, widow to Sir William Cavendish, whose son Henry married the Lady Grace, one of the Earl's daughters by his first wife. About this time, and probably on this occasion, the Earl procured license to "alien the Castle of Goodrich, the manor of Urchenfield, Goodrich, Flanesford, and Eccleswall, and the hundred of Wormelow, with their appurtenances, &c. to Henry Cavendish and Richard Croke, and to the heirs of the said Henry."* That these places were really alienated, is improbable; as Gilbert, seventh Earl of Shrewsbury, was in possession of this Castle and Manor at the period of his death, in the fourteenth of James the First.† Elizabeth, his second daughter and co-heiress, conveyed them in marriage to Henry de Grey, Earl of Kent, in whose family they continued till the year 1740, when, on the death of Henry, Duke of Kent, they were sold to the late Admiral Griffin, whose son, George Griffin, Esq. is now owner.‡

In the Civil Wars between Charles the First and his Parliament, Goodrich Castle was alternately possessed by both parties. It was first seized by the Parliament, but afterwards fell into the possession of the Royalists, who sustained a siege of nearly six weeks against Colonel Birch. The Colonel began the siege on the twenty-second of June, 1646.§ On the twenty-fifth, the Commons voted eighty barrels of powder, out of the stores of Oxford, for carrying on the service against Goodrich Castle, and Ragland Castle.|| On the third of August, as appears from Whitelocke,¶ "Colonel Birch entered some of the works of Gotherich Castle, whereupon

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 448.

† Grose's Antiquities, Vol. II. p. 235.

‡ Perspective Itinerary, No. II. p. 12.

§ Whitelocke's Memorials, p. 218.

|| Commons' Journals.

¶ Memorials, p. 223.

upon the garrison hung out a white flag for parley, which Birch refused, and went on storming, and they all submitted to mercy. In the Castle, besides the Governor, Sir Henry Lingen, were fifty gentlemen, and 120 soldiers, with arms, ammunition, and provisions." On the twenty-fifth, the Parliament gave orders that the Countess of Kent should be informed, that there was a necessity for demolishing the Castle, and that 'on the demolishing thereof, satisfaction should be made to her.' On the first of March following, they finally resolved that the Castle should be totally disgarrisoned, and *slighted*: the breaches in the Ladies' Tower, which is the most effectually ruined, were said to have been chiefly occasioned by the battering of the cannon during the siege.

Within the Lordship of Goodrich, in a fertile vale about a quarter of a mile from the Castle on the south, are the remains of FLANESFORD PRIORY, founded by Richard Lord Talbot, in the year 1347, for Black Canons regular of the order of St. Augustine. Its revenues at the Dissolution, were estimated, according to Speed, at 15l. 8s. 9d. annually; and were granted in the thirteenth of Henry the Eighth, to George, fourth Earl of Shrewsbury. In one of the buildings, now used as a barn, and which seems to have been the refectory chapel, are some neat windows in the pointed style.

In GOODRICH Church, which stands at a little distance from the Priory on the west, is a curious ancient *Tomb*, without either inscription or arms, but traditionally reported to have been raised in memory of some one of the possessors of Goodrich Castle. The lower part is evidently of greater age than the upper, and is surrounded by clumsy pillars, with heavy torusses, the bases and capitals being in the same style: from these pillars spring pointed arches, sustaining a plain slab, of a date considerably posterior to the style of the columns. The *Chalice* used in administering the Sacrament at Goodrich, has a singular connexion with the events of the Civil War. The then Vicar, the Rev. Thomas Swift,* was
grandfather

* Lord Clarendon observes, that "the King received no relief that was more seasonable or acceptable," than a sum which this clergyman had

grandfather to Dean Swift, and was remarkably zealous in his endeavors to support the cause of Royalty. This drew upon him the determined enmity of the adverse party: in March, 1646, he was ejected from his living; and in August his property was sequestered, and himself imprisoned. On his liberation, he still continued privately to pursue the duties of his profession; and travelling from house to house among his former parishioners, he celebrated the eucharist from this cup, which he carried about with him for the purpose. He died in 1658: the cup was afterwards transmitted to his grandson, Dean Swift, who, in 1726, dedicated it to the service of Goodrich Church for ever, as appears from an inscription engraven on the bottom of the Chalice, and which repeats some of the foregoing circumstances.

Between one and two miles eastward from Goodrich, are the *Iron Works* of BISHOP'S WOOD FURNACE, above which a dam has been formed by a small stream, that rises at a little distance, and whose waters, after supplying the business of the furnace, fall into the Wye below. Among the works are some powerful engines for stamping the ancient scorizæ, &c. to powder, and which is here re-manufactured to considerable advantage. Great quantities of iron ore, brought from Lancashire, are smelted at this forge.

From this point, the Wye makes a sweep of nearly four miles into Gloucestershire; but the space inclosed between the limits of Herefordshire and the river, is considered as a part of Monmouthshire. Within this area is the little *Church* of WELSH BICKNOR, and the old mansion, and venerable woods, of COURTFIELD, the

had collected by mortgaging his estate, and every other means in his power, and with which he repaired to Ragland Castle, whither His Majesty had retired after the Battle of Naseby; "where his distress was very great, and his resources entirely cut off. The Governor, with whom he was acquainted, asked his errand. 'I am come,' said he, 'to give His Majesty my coat.' As he took it off, the Governor pleasantly replied, 'It is of little worth.'—'Why then,' said Swift, 'take my waistcoat:' and this being ripped, was found to contain 300 broad pieces of gold."

the place, according to a current tradition, where Henry the Fifth was sent from Monmouth, the scene of his birth, to be nursed.*

About one mile from Courtfield to the west, rises the commanding eminence called COPPED-WOOD HILL, from which the prospects are extremely fine, and of considerable extent. Here, from one point, at a little building, formerly the residence of a Warrener, may be seen parts of the eight counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Salop, Worcester, Gloucester, Glamorgan, Brecon, and Radnor. The diversity of the scenery makes the views from this hill uncommonly interesting.

The prospects on the Wye, between RAVEN'S CLIFF and Symond's Yate, are exceedingly striking; they gradually increase in interest as the river is descended, and unfold an immense mass of rocks of great height, and nearly a mile in extent. In some places the rocks are crested or shrouded by the deep foliage of primæval oaks; in others the cliffs assume the sullen port of a ruined and mighty Castle, far beyond the possibility of human patience or exertion to construct; and to which the implacable genius of Chivalry seems to have retired, to keep the deep silence of despair in the midst of congenial gloom. The shore on the opposite side is more level; and from this cause the bold effect of the rocks is greatly increased.

At SYMOND'S YATE, or *Rock*, the Wye veers suddenly to the north, and then flowing in a semicircular course, again turns off to the south, till it reaches the New Weir, and once more changes its direction to the south-west. The most narrow part of this peninsula is scarcely half a mile in extent, though the space infolded by the river is between six and seven miles. The bird's-eye view from this eminence is extremely pleasing: the interest is considerably increased by an ancient *Encampment* that crowns the summit,

* The *Cradle* in which the Royal infant was rocked, is yet preserved as an invaluable relique. It became an honorary perquisite to one of the rockers, who was an ancestor of the late Rev. Mr. Ball, of Newland, in Gloucestershire: on his death it was given to — Whitehead, Esq. of French Hay, near Bristol. A view of it has been engraved in Bonner's Itinerary.

summit, and by the contiguity of the iron-works at the New Weir. The tremendous sounds of the vast hammers happily coincide with the character of the scenery: where Nature is so grand in her design, the effect is much heightened by whatever awakens correspondent sensations in the mind.

The *Cascade* of the NEW WEIR, which intersects the channel of the river between Symond's Yate and the Doward Hills, has been selected by tourists as one of the most beautiful and majestic scenes upon the Wye, as it gains superior advantage from accidental accompaniments. In Whateley's *Observations on Modern Gardening*, one of the most scientific, as well as first published essays on that subject, is a very animated description of this spot; and which, as the scenery and adjuncts are still the same, is here transcribed. "A scene at the New Weir on the Wye, which in itself is truly great and awful, so far from being disturbed, becomes more interesting and important, by the business to which it is destined. It is a chasm between two high ranges of hill, that rise almost perpendicularly from the water: the rocks on the sides are mostly heavy masses, and their colour is generally brown; but here and there a pale craggy shape starts up to a vast height above the rest, unconnected, broken, and bare: large trees frequently force out their way amongst them; and many of them stand far back in the covert, where their natural dusky hue is deepened by the shadow that overhangs them. The river, too, as it retires, loses itself in woods, which close immediately above, then rise thick and high, and darken the water. In the midst of all this gloom is an *Iron Forge*, covered with a black cloud of smoke, and surrounded with half-burned ore, with coal and with cinders: the fuel for it is brought down a path, worn into steps narrow and steep, and winding among precipices; and near it is an open space of barren moor, about which are scattered the huts of the workmen. It stands close to the cascade of the Weir, where the agitation of the current is increased by large fragments of rocks, which have been swept down by floods from the banks, or shivered by tempests from the brow; and the sullen sound, at stated intervals, of the strokes from the great hammer in the forge, deadens the

roar of the water-fall.* Just below it, while the rapidity of the stream still continues, a ferry is carried across it; and lower down, the fishermen use little round boats, called truckles, (coracles,) the remains, perhaps, of the ancient British navigation, which the least motion will overset, and the slightest touch may destroy. All the employments of the people seem to require either exertion or caution; and the ideas of force or of danger, which attend them, give to the scene an animation unknown to the solitary, though perfectly compatible with the wildest romantic situation."†

The eminence called the GREAT DOWARD, rises to the north-west of Symond's Yate, bearing on its brow the remains of an ancient *Encampment*, called KING ARTHUR'S HALL; from which the ground gently declines to the river. At a short distance to the west, is the LITTLE DOWARD HILL; and on the summit of this also, are vestiges of an ancient *Camp*: hereabouts, according to Gibson's Camden, broad arrow-heads have been found; and in a place which seemed to have been arched over, an almost entire human skeleton was discovered, "whose joints were pretended to be twice the length of those of the present race."‡ Near the short reach, called *St. Martin's Pool*, said to be the deepest spot on the Wye, that river finally quits this county, and enters Monmouthshire.

PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, in the parish of Welsh-Newton, is mentioned as early as the seventh of Henry the Third, when William Lord Cantilupe was its Governor. In Henry the Seventh's reign, it was held by the Knights Hospitallers of Dynmore; and afterwards by Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby. In the time of Elizabeth, after passing through the hands of — Baynham, who was attainted of treason, it was purchased by

* — The heavy wheel moves round;
And ever and again, lets fall the loud
And awful hammer, that confounds the ear,
And makes the firm earth shake.

Dr. Hurdis's Village Curate.

† Observations, &c. p. 116.

‡ Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 448.

by David Baker, who sold it to Sir Walter Pye, Sen. The last Sir Walter Pye again disposed of this estate to George Kemble, Gent. who repaired the ruins with timber, and made it habitable, as it was in 1675.* The Castle is now wholly demolished, together with an adjoining Chapel; and the Park has been ploughed up, and cultivated.

A considerable district in the southern part of Herefordshire, was formerly comprehended by the name of *ARCENFELDE*, *IRCHINFELD*, or *URCHENFIELD*: the former is the appellation which it bears in the Domesday Book; the latter are variations of a later period. "*Herchinfeld*," says Leland, "is a great Lordship longing to the Erle of Shrewsbury, and lieth betwixt Monemuth and Herford, about 2 miles from eche of them: on the one side *alluitur Vaga flu.* Erchenfeld is very full of enclosures, and of corne and woode."† This tract was ravaged by the Danes in the year 905, and Camalac, a British Bishop, made prisoner.‡

"The King," says the Domesday Book, "has in *Arcenfelde*, 100 men, *mines* four, who hold 73 *carucæ* with their men, and pay for custom 41 pints of honey, and 20s. in lieu of the sheep which they used to furnish, and 10s. smoke money, (*furnagium*,) and no other toll or custom, except serving in the King's army if required. If a freeman dies there, the King has his horse and arms; and if a villain, one ox. King Gryffin and Blein ravaged this tract in the Confessor's reign, and therefore the state of it at that time cannot be ascertained."§

The ninety-six men here spoken of, observes Mr. Gough, were considered by Mr. Blount, "to be *liberi homines*, yet such as held

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in

* Gough's Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 461.

† Itin. Vol. V. p. 9.

‡ Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 442. "Bishop Godwin supposes this was *Cimeliauc*, or *Camelegsac*, Bishop of Landaff; or, as Matthew of Westminster says, Bishop of the East Saxons, among whom he was taken, and afterwards ransomed by King Edward the Elder for 40l." *Ibid.*

§ Domesday Book, fol. 181.

in gavel-kind; and the seventy-three ploughs with their men, he looked upon as their *villani*; and that both held all their lands in this territory in gavel-kind, which are so continued to this day. They were free from payments and customs anciently imposed upon the rest of the nation, because as a special remark it is said, *nec dant geldam aut aliam consuetudinem*; unless it be to march in the King's army when they are commanded; yet paying, as the rest of Wales did, their *taluf-wsch*, and *taluf-furn*; this last being the *furn-agium* above mentioned, a payment for fire, and elsewhere called smoke-silver; which is still paid to the lords of manors in Wales, and in some parts of England, to the minister of the parish. They had the chief honor in the army given them; they led the van to fight, and brought up the rear in its retreat. They have within their circuits, a liberty to arrest for any sum whatsoever; and whoever purchases lands there, may bequeath them to whom he pleases, as it was adjudged *inter* Martinstow and Gloditha, twentieth of Edward the First.

“The wife here hath the moiety of her husband's lands for her dower; nor is here any forfeiture of lands for felony: besides, the King's writ runs not here, as it was adjudged in the same King Edward's time, and thus recorded: ‘*Homines Hundredi de Irchenfeld a tempore quo non extat memoria placitaverunt et placita sua habuerunt de omnibus placitis quæ ad coronam pertinent sive de appellis sive de transgressionibus contra pacem regis solummodo coram vicecomite Hereford, et non coram aliquibus aliis justiciariis.*’ This was pleaded in bar to an appeal made in derogation of the privilege of Irchinfeld before the Justices itinerant; but the judgment was, ‘*Ideo appellum remittitur in Hundredo prædicto.*’ In this record it is called *Hundredum*, but in several other pleadings, *Libertas*, de Irchenfeld: and in case where any of the inhabitants were impleaded out of the liberty, the *Ballivus libertatis de Irchenfeld* came, and claimed those immunities, which were always allowed. They have also a formal way of judicature of their own, after the British fashion: the Steward, with his officers belonging to the court, being seated, there are certain chiefs among them, who hold their lands of the lord by suit and doom, in the court of
this

this his liberty, and are therefore called *doomsmen*; that is, men of judgment, or such who are to judge of matters in controversy: accordingly in the *Quo Warranto* roll of Irchenfeld, twentieth of Edward the First, it is recorded, that “*Jurati hundredorum de Irchenfeld, Webbeter, et Greytre, dicunt quod Betholin qui tenuit villam de Comboglin solebat facere sectam ad hundred. predict. et esse unus Doonisman de eodem hundredo,*” &c. And whereas the King had three Churches within this liberty, the Priests of those Churches were bound to carry the King’s messages into Wales; and each of them were to say two masses every week for the King, as appears by the Domesday Book.

“The learned author before cited, affirms also, that he has seen a record, wherein these inhabitants of Irchenfeld are said to be left, as it were, to their own liberty, and to be *extra comitatum*; that is, not bound up to any strictness by the country laws. Lastly, the tenure whereby they hold their lands is gavel-kind, which is a partition among all female children; with this difference only to the eldest son, that certain principals, as they call them, pass to him as heir-looms, and are not subject to partition; such as the best beast, the best bed and furniture, the best table, &c. which tenure, and those other enumerated customs, they do for the most part still retain, as derived to them from great antiquity, even before the Norman Conquest; for they are recorded to have been *Consuetudines Walensium tempore regis Edwardi Confessoris.*”*

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* Gough’s Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 447. “These customs were as follow: if any stole from the Welsh, a man, or woman, horse, ox, or cow, he was, on conviction, to restore the thing stolen, and forfeit 20s. but for a sheep, or bundle of *manipuli*, (i. e. clothes,) 2s. Whoever killed one of the King’s men, and fled, was to forfeit to the King 20s. for the murder, and 10s. forfeit—if the man belonged to a thane; the forfeit to the man’s master was to be 10s. If one Welshman killed another, the relations of the deceased were to meet, and plunder the goods of the murderer and his relations, and burn their houses, till the body was buried about noon of the following day: the King was to have his third of the booty, and all the rest was to remain to them. Who-
ever

It appears also, from Blount, that it was presented, that, contrary to their liberty, their men were by the chiefs carried to the Castle of Hereford,* when they had a prison and gate-house of their own for the punishment of offenders at Goodrich Castle, "which is as the *Caput Baronie*, or *Libertatis*." This is corroborated by Leland, who observes, that "they carry their prisoners to *Castel Goderyce*, somewhat out of Erchynfyld, but-longing to the Erle of Shrewsbyri." This region, or "Liberty of *Urchenfield*, continued in the Crown till Edward the Third's time, when that King, in the twentieth year of his reign, granted to Richard Talbot, and Elizabeth his wife, and their heirs, in exchange for the manor of Hertingfordbury, in the county of Hertford, the land and hundred of Irchenfeld, and the manor of Wormlow, and the manor and services of Reynold Grey for the manor of Wilton, and of Thomas Ganworth for the manor of Kinger."†

The district of Irchinfield frequently occurs in Welsh writings by the name of *Urging*, and is stated to have anciently been governed by independent Sovereigns. It seems to have been more extensive than is recorded by Leland, and probably included *Ariconium* as its capital. At present there is no hundred of the name of

ever was charged with firing a house, and could not clear himself by forty compurgators, was to forfeit 20s. to the King. Whoever was convicted of concealing one pint of honey in the custom, was to forfeit five pints for one, if his lands yielded so much. If the Sheriff called them to the shire-mot, six or seven of the best were to go with him; and whoever refused to go on summons, was to forfeit 2s. or an ox to the King, *et qui de hundred remanet* was to pay as much: and the like fine for disobeying the Sheriff's precept to go with him into Wales; for if the Sheriff did not go, no one else need." *Ibid.*

* "*Inter presentationes hundredi de Wormelow, Juratores presentant quod vicecomites capere faciunt homines de hundredo predicto per indictamenta et ducere eos ad castrum Herefordie, et tenere eos donec finem fecerunt contra libertatem istius hundredi.*

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 448.

of Irchinfield; but the deanery so called, includes “ the whole hundred of Wormelow, and one parish in Webtree.”*

ST. WEONARDS derives its name from the dedication of its *Church* to the British Saint of that name, whose figure, represented as an old man sustaining a book and an ox, was formerly in the north chancel window. Several of the ancient family of the *Minors*, who came in with the Conqueror, and were seated at TRIAGO, in this parish, lie buried here.

On a commanding eminence between Michael-Church and Pengethley, is an ancient square CAMP, called GEER COPP; and hardly two miles distant, on a hill, to the north-east, is another, but smaller CAMP, called CARADOC, or corruptly, CRADOCK, which is also the name of a seat here, belonging to the Digby family. The Manor-House is a venerable building, pleasantly situated on the bank rising above the Wye: the scenery in this neighbourhood is exceedingly picturesque.

LLANFROTHER was the site of an ancient COLLEGE, recorded to have been founded, with eleven others, early in the sixth century, by St. Dubricius, Archbishop of Caerleon, and King of Urging. “ In the fore-mentioned region of Urchenfield,” observes Taylor, in his *History of Gavel-kind*, “ is a certain parish called *Hên-llan*, commonly HENTLAND, which in the English tongue signifies the *Old Church*; and in certain pastures belonging to a farm in that parish, there is a place which to this day is called *Llan-frawtwr*, which is as much as to say, the Church or Convent of the Brethren; the site whereof was upon a small hill, not half a mile distant from Hentland; the ruins of which place, with its old foundations, are yet to be seen, and was a place dedicated to holy use: there it was that the great College for one hundred students was founded by St. Dubricius, the Prince of this region, (to repel the progress of Pelagian heresie,) who succeeded his grand-father Pibanus, King of Ergin, the old name of Urchenfield, and in the days of King Arthur was made Archbishop of Caerleon.”† The

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foundations

* Gough's *Camden*, Vol. II. p. 448.

† *Hist. of Gavel-kind*, p. 90. Edit. 1663.

foundations of extensive buildings may still be traced here at particular seasons, on the summit of an eminence rising from the western bank of the Wye; but all the materials that were above ground, have been used in the construction of walls, &c. even part of the foundations themselves, have been dug up within memory for the same purpose. Some adjacent fields bear the names of the *Nether-Town Field*, and *Behind-Town*.

The land-holders, or *brinkers*, on this part of the river, within the liberty of Irchenfield, possess the right of fishing in the 'FREE WATER,' as that part of the Wye is called which lies between Holm-Lacey and Strangford, "provided they expose the salmon, and other fish that are caught, for sale, upon a board fixed up in the Hereford turnpike-road, between Llan-frother and Horewithy." About forty years ago, this custom was enforced by the manor-court of Wormelow, and the fishermen ordered to carry their fish to this board, that, "any woman big with child, or poor person, might have as small a piece as a pound." This order was probably made merely to try the right: the board on which the fish were exposed, has been taken down about ten or twelve years.*

HAREWOOD is an ancient residence of the Hoskyns family, and now the seat of Sir Hungerford Hoskyns, Bart. The Mansion is a plain structure; but has been much improved, and partly rebuilt, by the present owner. The Park is well wooded, and contains some very fine timber. In this precinct, some authors have placed the scene of the tragical death of Earl Ethelwold, supposed to have been assassinated by King Edgar, for his conduct with respect to the fair Elfrida.†

On the summit of ACONBURY HILL, a bold and extensive eminence, partly covered with young wood, and commanding a delightful view over the adjacent country, are the traces of a large CAMP, of a square form: the rampart on the east side is very conspicuous. This was probably a summer camp of the Romans.

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* Bonner's Perspective Itinerary, p. 19, 20.

† See under Tavistock, Vol. IV. p. 217.

At the neighbouring village of ACONBURY, was a NUNNERY of the order of St. Augustine, founded and endowed in the time of King John, by Margery, wife of Walter de Lacy. The *Clif-fords*, one of whom appears to have been buried here, were considerable benefactors to this house; its revenues, at the time of the Dissolution, were estimated at 75l. 7s. 5d $\frac{1}{4}$. annually.* This estate is now the property of Guy's Hospital, it having been purchased, with Wilton Castle, and other estates in this county belonging to the Lords Chandos, some time in the last century. The Chandos family obtained it by the marriage of Sir John Brydges, Knt. and Bart. with the heiress of the *Pearles* of Dewsall; into which family also, it had been conveyed by an heiress, descended from Hugh Parry, who had purchased it from Henry the Eighth. The remains of the Nunnery have been fitted up as a farm-house. Some stone coffins preserved in the Nun's Chapel, have been engraved for Gough's Sepulchral Monuments.

MEEND PARK, the seat of Sir Richard Symmonds, Bart. ranges under the west side of Saddlebow Hill. The mansion is a large plain structure of brick; the grounds afford some rich and well-wooded scenery.

At KILPECK was an ancient CASTLE, and CELL of BENE-DICTINES: the former was the residence of the noble family of *Kilpec*, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of the *Walc-ranes*, who lived here in the time of Edward the First. "The Castle of Kilpek, by Herchenfeld," says Leland, "now longeth to the Erle of Ormond: sum ruines of the walls yet stand. The *Priory* stood from the Castle a quarter of a mile." This was subordinate to St. Peter's at Gloucester, to which the Church had been given by Hugh Fitz-William, an ancestor of the Lords Kilpec: "it was suppressed in Thomas Spofford, Bishop of Hereford's time, and clerly united to Gloucester."†

At KENTCHURCH, bordering on Monmouthshire, is the pleasant seat of John Scudamore, Esq. who has represented the city

* Harl. MSS. No. 6729, fol.

† Lel. Itin. Vol. VIII. See also Vol. V.

city of Hereford in six or seven successive parliaments. The Park is between three or four miles in circumference, and contains some fine timber. In Leland's Itinerary, this place is called *Penchirche*; and affirmed to be the seat of the eldest House of the *Escuedamours*.

At EWIAS HAROLD, on an eminence bounded on the north-east by a small stream, which falls into the Dore about a mile below, was an ancient CASTLE, now demolished, formerly the head of the Lordship of Ewias Harold, which Leland describes as "a mile in breadth wher it is narrowest, and most in length two miles: it hath the goode corne, grasse, and woode."* This Castle was founded previously to the Conquest; and, according to the Domesday Book, was "re-fortified by Alured de Marleburg." Dugdale says, that this fortress was built by William Fitz-Osborne, Earl of Hereford, after the Conquest; but this affirmation the above extract proves to be inaccurate. The statement of Leland is more likely to be the truth: he observes, "the same goeth, that Kynge Harold had a bastard named Harold, and of this Harold part of Ewis was named *Ewis Harold*.—The same is, that the Castell of Map-Herald was buildid of Harold afore he was Kynge; and when he overcame the *Walsche* men, Harold gave this Castle to his bastard. Great parte of Mapherald Castell is yet standinge, and a Chapelle of Seint Nicholas in it. Ther was sumetyme a Parke by the Castell: the Castle stondythe on a mene hill."†

Harold, Lord of Ewias, according to Mr. Gough, was the son of Ralph, Earl of Hereford, and father of Robert, founder of Dore Abbey; but Leland says, that the latter was the son of Harold's bastard. "This Robert had issue, Robert. The second Robert had one dowghtar, caullyd Sibille Ewias, married to Sir Robert Tregoz, a Norman. Robert Tregoz had issue, John Tregoz: this John Tregoz married Lord William Cantelupe's Dowghtar caulyd Julia, sistar to Thomas Cantelupe, Bishop of Herforde, Chancellor to Henry the Third. John Tregoz had by Julia, 2 dowghtars: Clarence, married to John, Lord de la Ware; and Sibille, married to Guliam de Grandeson.—Tregoz and Graunson were

* Itin. Vol. VIII. p. 83.

† Ibid. p. 84.

were the last that were men of any greate estimation that dwellyd in Mapheralt. Johan Beauchamp, Lady of Bergeveny, bowght of Dela War and Graunson, Mapeherault Castell.—Ther is a vil-
lage by the Castle caulld *Ewis Haralde*, in the whiche was a PRIORIE, or cell of Blake Monks, translatyd from *Dulesse* (Dew-
las) village, a myle and upper on the broke. Dules village longed to Harold. *Filius Harald*i foundyd this at Dules: Robertus Tre-
goz translated it from Dules to Mapheralt: it was a cell to Glo-
cester.* The revenues of this establishment having greatly de-
creased, the monks were finally removed to Gloucester in 1338,
and their possessions united to those of St. Peter's Abbey, to which
the Church here had been given early in the twelfth century.

DORE ABBEY, so named from its situation on the river Dore,
was founded for Cistercian Monks, by Robert, Lord of Ewias,
about the end of the reign of Henry the First, or beginning of
that of King Stephen; in whose third year, various gifts were
made to this Abbey, by Harold de Ewias, father of the above
Robert. Besides the valuable endowments made by the founder,
considerable benefactions were bestowed by other eminent per-
sonages; and King John increased the possessions of the monks,
by a grant of all the land between the Dore river and a rivulet
called Trivelbrook. His successor, Henry the Third, was also
esteemed a benefactor, from having confirmed in his seventeenth
year, all the grants, charters, and donations, that had been made
to the Abbey from the period of its foundation. The monks hav-
ing thus acquired extensive possessions, and become very affluent,
began the erection of a magnificent Church; but the expenses hav-
ing exceeded their estimate, they procured an hortatory letter
from Peter de Aqua-Blanca, Bishop of Hereford, in which an
abatment of twenty days penance was promised to all those who
would contribute towards the erection of the said structure. This
indulgence proved effectual; and the Church was completed in a
very elegant manner in the Pointed style. The Abbey continued
to flourish from this period till the Dissolution of the lesser Mo-
nasteries,

* Itin. Vol. VIII. p. 84.

nasteries, its inmates having appropriated to themselves many of the *bona spiritualia* of the neighbouring parishes. Their mode of effecting this, says Bishop Kennet, 'was to prevail upon the incumbent to receive or embrace their order, and to bring his church with him; allowing him, in return, a pension for life, provided that he suffered them to apply the fruits of his benefice to their own use.' At the time of its suppression, the revenues of this Abbey were, according to Dugdale, estimated at the annual value of 101l. 5s. 2d. but Speed records the yearly income at 118l. 0s. 2d.'

Several of the Abbots of Dore became highly celebrated from their talents both in religious and civil employments. Among the most eminent characters of his age, was Abbot *Adams*, who, about the thirteenth century, was educated in this monastery. In his studies, he intermingled the lighter pursuits of life with the more serious; but never permitted the hours which he dedicated to poetry, music, and philosophy, to interfere with those devoted to the exercises of piety. His regularity in the performance of religious duties, and general proficiency in the sciences, occasioned his fellow monks to make choice of him as their superior. The wisdom of this choice was evinced by his conduct in a controversy which he entered into, soon after his election, with *Silvester Girald*, a person of considerable learning and eminence among the secular clergy; and in which he vindicated the Cistercian Monks from the charges of ignorance, avarice, and concupiscence, which had been brought against them by Girald.

Another instance of the extreme discipline, piety, and learning, which the *Bernardines*, or reformed Cistercians, cultivated, amidst a general dissoluteness of manners in religious houses, may be found in the person of *Caducan*, or, *Cadwgan*, who was descended from a very ancient British race, and, for his attainments in the sciences, and knowledge in divinity, was promoted, by King John, to the See of Bangor, in the year 1215. Having enjoyed this dignity nearly twenty-one years, he resigned it, by permission of Pope Gregory, in 1236, and laying aside his pontifical robes, assumed the humble garb of a monk in this Abbey, and spent the

the remainder of his days in meditation and prayer: here, also, he composed a book of Homilies. Another celebrated Abbot of this house was *Richard Stradel*, who was likewise the author of some excellent Homilies on the Paternoster, and Evangelists. The estimation which Dore Abbey had very early attained, may be further illustrated by the circumstance of Edward the First, on his ascension to the Throne, issuing a commission to the then Abbot, by which he empowered him to receive the oath of allegiance in his name, from Llewellyn, the son of Griffin, Prince of Wales. In the eighth of Edward the Third, the Abbot of Dore, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Sir William de Clayton, Knt. were constituted by that Monarch, as special ministers to treat with Philip, the French King; and in the succeeding year, the same Abbot was employed on a similar negotiation, with the Bishop of Norwich.

In the thirty-first of Henry the Eighth, the site and demesne lands of Dore Abbey were granted to John Scudamore, Esq. of Holm-Lacey; who afterwards purchased the tithes of the parish, which having been originally granted to the Earl of Devonshire, had passed through various hands. The Chapter-House, Cloisters, and other buildings belonging to the Abbey, were pulled down, and the materials sold, soon after its suppression, together with part of the Church; but enough of the latter is still left, to show that it was built in the Cathedral form, and that its architecture was very elegant. John, Viscount Scudamore, obtained a licence from Charles the First, to rebuild this fabric, and to endow it with all the appropriated tithes of Dore Parish: it was not, however, entirely rebuilt, but underwent considerable repairs; and in March, 1634, was re-consecrated by Theophilus Field, Bishop of St. David.

This edifice consists of a nave, chancel, and transept, with a well-proportioned and massive tower: the transept was completely new roofed by Lord Scudamore, whose arms are finely carved on the *Screen* which divides the chancel from the nave, together with those of England, and of the See of Hereford. The chancel is spacious, and has a magnificent appearance; its length is eighty-four

four feet; its breadth, thirty-two; and its height, forty-six. The Communion Table is a remarkable slab, twelve feet long, and four broad, resting upon three elegant pillars: the altar-piece is equally singular; it displays a carved representation, in wood, of the heart, hands, and feet, of Our Saviour, pierced and bleeding.

Above the altar are three beautiful windows, filled with painted glass: in the centre window Jesus is depicted ascending into Heaven; above him is Moses, and St. John Baptist; and beneath the eleven Apostles. In the other windows, are full length figures of the Evangelists, and of St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, and St. John, with appropriate legends. On the opposite sides of the chancel, are two handsome monuments in memory of the REV. WILLIAM WATTS, and the REV. DIGBY COTES, both of whom were Rectors of this parish: the former died in 1711; the latter in 1793. Behind the altar is a kind of Chapel, called a double Cloister, the roof of which is supported by well-proportioned pillars, of good workmanship: here, beneath an arch, is a mutilated figure, carved in free-stone, said to be the effigies of ROBERT DE EWIAS, founder of this Abbey, who is recorded to have been buried here, together with Robert, his son, and several others of his family. Another broken and defaced statue, in the north aisle, is said to represent SIR ROGER DE CLIFFORD, the younger, who was also buried here; as were Sir Alan Plokenet, and William Grandison, Lords of Ewias Harold, and various other illustrious persons. In the Church-Yard, under an ancient yew-tree, is a plain tomb, erected in commemoration of the REV. MATTHEW GIBSON, who was Rector here, and wrote the View of the ancient and present State of the Churches of Dore, Holm-Lacey, and Hempstead: he died in 1740.

The Abbey lands are now the property of the Duke of Norfolk, who obtained them by his marriage with the heiress of the Lords Scudamore. "The broke of Dour," says Leland, "runneth by the Abbey of Dour; and there it breakethe a litle above the Monasterie into 2 armes, whereof the lesse arme rennethe thorowghe the Monastery; the bygger arme levith the Abbey a bowe-shot of on the right hond or banke; the confluence is againe hard

bynethe the Abbay.* The parish of Dore contains about 5000 acres, about one fifth of which is planted. The buildings are chiefly farm-houses and cottages, built of timber, with mud walls, and lying scattered on the hills, and in the valleys; the land being extremely diversified and broken. The roads in this district, and, indeed, in all this part of the country, are excessively rugged, and bad.

In a valley, between three and four miles to the west of Dore and Ewias Harold, flows the river Honddy, near the junction of which with the Munnōw River, on the borders of Monmouthshire, is *ALTyrINYS*, an ancient mansion belonging to, and long the seat of the *Cecils*, from whom descended the Lords Burghley. The river Honddy nearly surrounds the house: both streams are clear and rapid, and the scenery on their banks is very picturesque. This estate became the property of the *Cecils* by the marriage of Robert Sitsilt with an heiress about the year 1091.

On the brow of a precipice of the Black Mountains, rising above *TREWYN HOUSE*, the pleasant seat of — Rosier, Esq. are vestiges of an ancient *ENCAMPMENT*, of an oblong rectangular form, the area of which measures 485 feet by 240 feet. Beyond the bank, on one side, is a more extensive entrenchment, of a semi-circular figure, defended by a double ditch and rampart. The Rev. W. Coxe, who visited this district from Monmouthshire, supposes the former to be of Roman origin, and the latter to have been annexed by the Britons or Saxons. The situation, he remarks, was excellent “as well for an exploratory camp, as for the defence of the road which ran near the foot of the eminence.†”

LONGTOWN, a secluded village, situated near the junction of the upper branches of the Munnōw, is marked as the Roman *Blestium*, in Taylor's Map of Herefordshire; most probably from mistaking the place meant by Camden, who fixes that station (though erroneously) at *Castle Hên*, or *Old Castle*, an ancient Camp, on an eminence between two and three miles to the south; and which is actually in Monmouthshire, though almost insulated

by

* Itin. Vol. VIII. p. 83.

† Historical Tour in Monmouthshire, Vol. I. p. 222.

by the lands of this county. At Longtown are some inconsiderable remains of a CASTLE; and to the eastward is an eminence, called *Money-Farthing Hill*; probably from coins found there.

Among the hills, near the rise of one of the branches of the Munnow, and between one and two miles from the borders of Brecknock, was CRASSWELL PRIORY, a small house, subordinate to the order of Grandmount, in Normandy. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and contained a Prior, and ten Monks, who were settled here about the end of the reign of King John, or beginning of that of Henry the Third. On its suppression, its revenues, amounting to 40s. annually, were granted, by Edward the Fourth, to God's House, now Christ's College, Cambridge.*

On a conical eminence above Vowchurch, in the GOLDEN VALE, so called by corruption from *Dyffryn Dwr*, is a small square CAMP, commanding an extensive prospect to the south-east.

In the same vale, about three miles to the north-west, is the site of the demolished CASTLE of SNODHILL, which Leland describes as 'somewhat in ruine,' even in his days. The earliest notice of this Castle occurs in a record of the time of Henry the Third: "in the thirtieth of Edward the First, it belonged to Robert, Lord Chandos, who was fourth in descent from one of both his names, who came in with the Conqueror. Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, in the time of Henry the Sixth, held it in right of his wife Anne, who, after his death at Barnet Field, settled it on King Henry the Seventh. Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. of the Garter."† Leland mentions a Free Chapel and Park here.

At DORSTON, on the same chain of hills as Snodhill, about one mile and a half to the north-west, was another CASTLE, now also demolished; the origin of which does not appear to be recorded.

The view eastward from Dorston is impeded by a range of bold eminences, extending about ten or twelve miles in a north-east direction, and known by the appellations of KING ARTHUR'S HILL, STOCKLEY HILL, and MAWBACH HILL. On the summit of the

* Tanner's Notitia.

† Gough's Additions to Camden, from Dugdale, and Blount's MSS.

the former is an interesting memorial of British customs, called KING ARTHUR'S TABLET, a large and peculiar kind of CROMLECH, the incumbent stone of which, now broken nearly in the middle, measures eighteen feet in length, and from seven to ten feet broad; its thickness is about two feet; its form more closely resembles an ellipsis, than any other determinate figure. The number of upright stones that originally supported this slab, appears to have been eleven; but several of them are now fallen; and the top stone has a considerable depression at one end; a portion of it has also separated, and the fallen mass fills up some part of the vacuity beneath. Other smaller stones are scattered near the Cromlech; and on one side is a small mound or embankment of earth and stones: on the other the ground seems to have been hollowed into a somewhat circular form.

MOCCAS, or MOCCAS-COURT, the seat of Sir George Amyand Cornewall, Bart. one of the representatives for Herefordshire, is delightfully situated on the southern bank of the Wye: it came into the possession of the present Baronet from his marriage with the daughter and heiress of the late Velters Cornewall, Esq. who represented this county in seven successive parliaments. The *Cornewalls* were a younger branch of the Cornewalls of Burford, in Shropshire, and with them trace their descent to Richard, second son of King John, Earl of Poitiers, and Cornwall, and King of the Romans. They obtained this estate, together with the neighbouring Castle of Bredwardine, and other lands, by marriage with the heiress of the *Vaughans* of Bredwardine; of whom Sir Roger Vaughan, Knt. was son-in-law to the renowned Silurian, David Gam, and, together with him, and their kinsman, Walter Llwyd of Brecknock, greatly contributed to the success of Henry the Fifth at the battle of Agincourt. Though all were mortally wounded in a desperate charge made to relieve the King from the danger of being killed, or taken prisoner, they were knighted by the sorrowing Monarch upon the field, where they soon after died.* The

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present

* The well known answer of David Gam to the inquiry made by the King as to the numbers of the Enemy, that is, "Enough to be killed,

present mansion is a handsome modern building, occupying an easy ascent from the river, which, "clear and artless, pouring through the plain," gives interest and animation to the scenery. The Park, which ranges to the south-west, is finely wooded, and includes a large portion of the neighbouring eminence: many of the views from the grounds are extremely fine.

BREDWARDINE CASTLE, which stood on the banks of the Wye, about two miles above Moccas, has long been destroyed; the ruins are said to have furnished great part of the materials used in the erection of the ancient residence of the Cornewalls at Moccas. From the imperfect traces that remain, it appears to have been a strong and massive fortress. This place gave name to the family of the famous *Thomas Bredwardine*, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1349, surnamed the Profound Doctor, for his great learning: his progenitors removed from this spot into Sussex, between one and two centuries before he was born.

On a bold eminence, rising from the banks of the Wye, near its entrance into the county from Brecknockshire, stand the picturesque remains of **CLIFFORD CASTLE**, for nearly two centuries the baronial residence of the Lords de Clifford, who obtained it by the marriage of Walter Fitz-Richard, (a descendant of Richard, second Duke of Normandy,) whose father accompanied the Conqueror into England, with Margaret, daughter and heiress of Ralph de Cundy.* It was built by William Fitz-Osborne, Earl of Hereford; but at the time of the Domesday Survey, was held by Radulphus de Totenie. The ruins are chiefly massive fragments

killed, enough to be taken, and enough to run away," was probably the exciting cause of the spirited apostrophe which Drayton has put into the mouth of this hero, in his 'Battle of Agincourt.'

'Not dare,' quoth Gam, and angrily doth frown:—
'I tell thee, Woodhouse, some in presence stand,
Dare prop the sun if it were falling down;
Dare grasp the bolt from thunder in his hand,
And through a cannon leap into a town.'

* See some particulars of the Cliffords under Ugbrooke, Vol. IV. p. 106.

ments of wall, overhanging the steep near the river side. The celebrated ROSAMOND DE CLIFFORD, the fair but unfortunate mistress of Henry the Second, is said to have been born in this Castle. Here, in the time of Henry the First, Simon Fitz-Walter founded a CELL of Cluniac Monks, subordinate to the Priory at Lewes, in Sussex: its revenues at the period of the Dissolution, were estimated, according to Speed, at 65l. 11s. 11d. annually.

At WINFRETON was an HERMITAGE, founded by a monk of Wormeley Priory, about the time of Edward the First, on a small Island formed by the overflowing of the Wye. The name, *Chapel Close*, is the only memorial of this retreat, the buildings having been destroyed.*

At ERDESLEY, like so many other places in this county, is the site of a demolished CASTLE, or rather, as recorded in the Domesday Book, of a fortified dwelling, *domus defensabilis*; "bulted," says Taylor, in his History of Gavel-kind, "because of its vicinity to the Welsh borders." Between two and three miles to the north-east, near the banks of a rivulet above ALMELEY, was another Border CASTLE, of which scarcely any vestige can now be found.

At HUNTINGDON, on the borders of Radnorshire, about one mile west from the river Arrow, are the ruins of another CASTLE, which "longid," says Leland, "to the Duke of Bokingham."† This Castle gave name to the hundred in which it stood:

KINGTON,

A SMALL market and clothing town, situated on the Black Brook, under Bradnor Mountain, was also the site of a CASTLE, constructed for the defence of the Marches, but now destroyed. The *Church* is a very irregular structure, having a detached tower, surrounded by a spire of singular form. At the entrance of the

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town

* Gough's Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 446.

† Itin. Vol. V. p. 3.

town is a *Free Grammar School*, erected and endowed by a Lady Watkins. The inhabitants of this township, as ascertained under the act of 1801, amounted to 1424: the number of houses to 311. On the summit of BRADNOR MOUNTAIN, are the remains of a square CAMP.

Between two and three miles eastward of Kington, are the ruins of LYONS-HALL CASTLE, of which scarcely any thing now remains but fragments of the outer walls. "The very old Lords of *Leonshall*," says Leland, "were the *Marburges*, whose heir-general conveyed it to the Devereaux in marriage." In the beginning of the reign of Henry the Third, Sir Stephen d'Ebroicis was Lord of this Manor and Castle; and by him the Church was given to the Canons of St. Leonard of Pyona. In the reign of Edward the First, William, Baron Tuchet, was Lord here, and procured, by his influence with that Monarch, license of free warren for this Manor, together with a grant of a market and annual fair, both long since disused. In the succeeding reign the Castle was demolished.* The late Lord Viscount Weymouth was owner of this estate.

EYWOOD, about two miles north from Lyons-Hall, is the principal seat of Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, and Earl Mortimer, who possesses a very considerable extent of landed property in the north-western part of this county. The Harleys trace their descent to the time of King Ethelred, in whose army one of their ancestors held an important command. Richard de Harley aided Roger Mortimer, and the Earl of Gloucester, in contriving the escape of Prince Edward from Hereford; and for this service his family was particularly patronised by Edward, after he became King. In his reign, Robert de Harley married Margaret, eldest daughter of Brian de Brampton, by which he obtained the Castle of Brampton-Briau, and a large estate. Sir Thomas Harley was held in much estimation by James the First, from whom he obtained a grant of the Honour and Castle of Wigmore, in consideration of a distant relationship with the Mortimers, its former lords.

Sir

* Gough's Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 462.

Sir Edward Harley, Knight of the Bath, assisted in the restoration of Charles the Second, and was made Governor of Dunkirk; but resisting the iniquitous sale of that fortress, he was superseded. He afterwards raised a troop of horse for the service of the Prince of Orange. His son, the celebrated Sir Robert Harley, afterwards created Baron Harley of Wigmores, Earl of Oxford, and Earl Mortimer, anno 1711, had a very important influence over the direction of national affairs during the reign of Queen Anne; having filled the offices in succession, of Speaker of the House of Commons, principal Secretary of State, Chancellor and under Treasurer of the Exchequer, and Lord High Treasurer of England. With the death of that Queen, however, his power fell; and very early in the succeeding reign he was impeached and tried for high treason; but on the first of July, 1717, was acquitted by his Peers. He died in May, 1724, aged sixty-two. Though various acts of his political life favored too strongly of arbitrary principles, this Nobleman was an active patron of literature; and, together with Edward, his son and successor, formed that invaluable collection of books and manuscripts on English history and antiquities, which is now deposited in the British Museum. The present Earl of Oxford, who is the fifth Earl of this family, succeeded to the titles and estates on the death of his uncle in October 1790. The grounds at Eywood display a great diversity of scenery, and are ornamented with some fine plantations.

TILTEY was the site of a PRIORY, subordinate to the Abbey of Tyrone, in France. On the suppression of the Alien Priors, in the second of Henry the Fifth, it was given to the College at Winchester, and still belongs to that establishment. In the Churchyard at Tiltey is a monument to the memory of EDWARD HARLEY, Esq. Auditor of the Impost in the reign of Queen Anne. He was younger brother to the great Sir Robert Harley; and his son succeeded the son of that Nobleman in the honors and possessions of the family.

On the western extremity of WAPLEY, or WARREN HILL, north from Tiltey, are the vestiges of an extensive CAMP. The slope of the eminence is finely covered with wood, and its northern extremity is washed by a small river, which forms one of the

sources of the Lugg. The banks and ditches are five-fold, excepting on one side, where the steepness of the ascent is sufficient security: they are also very deep and high.

STEPLETON, another border CASTLE, was situated about a mile to the north of Presteign, a market-town of Radnorshire, just without the limits of this county, which includes, however, great part of Presteign Parish. Stepleton was anciently the property of the Earls Mortimer, but now belongs to the Earl of Oxford.

LYNGEN, or LINGEIN CASTLE, was the property of a family surnamed from this estate as early as the time of Henry the Third, and of whom Richard de Lingein appears to have commanded the troops of Herefordshire in the service of Henry the Fourth, during the rebellion of the Percies, and in that capacity granted a warrant to James de Brompton, empowering him to buy and sell cattle and sheep, in this county and the adjoining Marches, for his own use and profit, without affording relief to the Welsh rebels.* Sir Henry Lingein, or Lingen, who married the daughter of Sir Walter Pye, was a firm supporter of the cause of royalty during the Civil Wars in the time of Charles the First, in whose service great part of his fortune was expended. During the contest he besieged Brampton-Brian Castle, and burnt the adjacent village; to make good the damage of which, his remaining estates were sequestered by the Parliament: but, after the inventory was completed, Sir Robert Harley, to whose use the proceeds were ordered to be applied, generously relinquished all his right in favor of Sir Henry's widow. Sir Henry had issue nineteen children, of whom seven daughters survived, and among whom his estates were afterwards divided. All this part of the country is extremely hilly, and the roads very rugged, and almost impassable for carriages. The mount on which the Castle stood, is situated near the village Church.

BRAMPTON-BRIAN was an ancient Lordship of the family of Brian de Brampton, who resided here from about the time of Henry the First, and having intermarried with some of the chief nobility of the kingdom, became extinct in the time of Edward the First,

* See Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 457, and Duncumb's Herefordshire, Vol. I. p. 87, for a copy of the original warrant, taken from Blount's MSS.

First, when Margaret, a co-heiress, conveyed this estate in marriage to Robert de Harley, whose descendant, the Earl of Oxford, is still owner. The CASTLE, which had been erected here at an early period, became the chief seat of the Harleys, till the time of the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles the First, when it was twice besieged by the forces in the service of the King, and at length burnt, and otherwise dilapidated. The ruins, which chiefly consist of some fragments of walls, and an entrance gate-way, flanked by two round towers, occupy a low situation, about 100 yards north from the Church. A curious chimney, rising like a turret above the curtain, and a stair-case, are tolerably perfect; but all the other interior parts are destroyed. The Church was greatly damaged during the siege of the Castle; the body of it was afterwards badly repaired; but the tower is a pile of ruins. In the south wall is an altar-tomb, green with moss, on which lies the effigies of a lady unknown, greatly mutilated. Above this is a large marble tablet, in memory of ROBERT HARLEY, first Earl of Oxford. Another plain tablet records the name of SARAH, daughter of Thomas Foley, Esq. and wife to Edward Harley, Esq. the Earl's younger brother. In a space called the *Wilderness*, near the Church and Castle, are some of the largest and most flourishing trees in England. On the west from the Church is a large and respectable brick mansion belonging to the Harleys; and still further to the west, a Park, nearly six miles in circumference, occupying a considerable portion of an extensive eminence.

COXWALL-KNOLL CAMP, which has been already noticed as the last post occupied by the gallant Caractacus,* is scarcely a mile to the north of Brampton-Brian Park. Its form is irregular, but somewhat approaching to the section of an ellipsis; within the works, and on the banks, grow some fine old oaks. BRANDON CAMP, the supposed BRAVINIUM of the Romans,† is about three miles to the east, and on the opposite side of the river Teme. This Camp, which is of a square form, with a single ditch and rampart, is thought to have been occupied by Ostorius Scapula, previous to his decisive victory over Caractacus.

M m 4

DOWNTON,

* See p. 404.

† Duncumb's Collections, Vol. I. p. 27.

DOWNTON, the manor and seat of Richard Payne Knight, Esq. one of the parliamentary representatives for Ludlow, in Shropshire, has obtained a very distinguished celebrity; not more, perhaps, from the natural beauties of the situation, than from the intemperate criticism which has been poured out by unreflecting judges upon the principles that directed the taste of the classic owner, in the formation of his house, and disposition of his grounds. The singular irregularity of the former, which has proved the greatest source of fretful remark, had origin in the very design of the builder, whose intention was not so much to copy the style or manner of any particular age or country, as to produce a comfortable, pleasant and elegant dwelling, under an outward form, which might serve as a principal and not unsuitable feature, in the wild, romantic, and picturesque scenery of his demesne.* From its towers and embattled walls, however, its exterior assumes the appearance of a *Castle*; and by this appellation it is generally called; though it certainly was not designed to imitate a Gothic fortress, but rather the military architecture of the Greeks and Romans, which, like that of all civilized nations unacquainted with fire-arms, appears to have been in this style; embattled walls, flanked with towers, being the most obvious and effectual fortifications against every other kind of weapon. This mansion is built with stone, and situated on an elevated bank, commanding a lawn bounded by the river Teme, and surrounded by an extensive amphitheatre

* In the 'Analytical Inquiry into the Principles of Taste,' published by Mr. Knight during the course of the present summer, the mansion at Downton is thus alluded to: "It is now more than thirty years since the author of this Inquiry ventured to build a house ornamented with what are called Gothic towers and battlements without, and with Grecian ceilings, columns, and entablatures, within; and though his example has not been much followed, he has every reason to congratulate himself upon the success of the experiment; he having at once the advantage of a picturesque object, and of an elegant and convenient dwelling, though less perfect in both respects, than if he had executed it at a maturer age. It has, however, the advantage of receiving alterations and additions in almost every direction, without any injury to its genuine and original character." This mansion was begun in 1774, and first inhabited in 1778.

amphitheatre of wood, admitting occasional peeps over a varied and beautiful country. Though consisting of several parts of dissimilar character, each part is uniform in itself; and the whole, from its general union with the contiguous scenery, appears to great advantage. In this particular it justly exemplifies those principles of picturesque taste which Mr. Knight has developed in his poem of the 'Landscape,' and which the disposition of his grounds is still further calculated to exhibit.

" — So let th' approach and entrance to your place
 Display no glitter, and affect no grace;
 But still in careless easy curves proceed,
 Through the rough thicket, or the flowery mead;
 Till bursting from some deep-embower'd shade,
 Some narrow valley, or some opening glade,
 Well mix'd and blended in the scene, you shew
 The stately mansion rising to the view:
 But mix'd and blended ever let it be,
 A mere component part of what you see.

* * * * *

Component parts in all the eye requires;
 One formal mass for ever palls and tires.

The interior is fitted up with great taste and elegance; and some of the apartments are decorated with a few select pictures by the most eminent masters. The *Dining Room* occupies the centre of an octagon tower, which forms an angle of the south-west front: its diameter is about twenty-eight or thirty feet. The ceiling rises into a dome, finished by a lanthorn, from which, and from one window looking to the front, this apartment receives all its light. Opposite to the window is an organ; and in four recesses are as many side-boards, placed between very large pillars, ranged in couples: in each recess also is a niche, ornamented by a statue. The *Library*, though small, contains a very excellent collection of the best authors: here also is a portrait of the proprietor of the mansion.

With the advantage of a fine mountain river, a profusion of wood, some bold rocks, and a variety of distances, Downton may

justly be considered as one of the most picturesque seats in England. Here Nature has concentrated some of her most delightful charms; and Art, guided by true taste, has contented herself with exhibiting the beauties which she could not improve,

— To lead, with secret guile, the prying sight
To where component parts may best unite,
And form one beauteous nicely-blended whole,
To charm the eye, and captivate the soul.

LANDSCAPE, p. 14.

From the house the ground falls rapidly into a beautiful little valley, watered by the Teme; which flows in a wild and impetuous current over its rocky bed. The opposite bank is finely clothed with luxuriant wood, rising in various shapes to its very summit. The course of the stream is richly diversified; its channel now contracts, and now grows wider, while the wild and solitary path which leads through the woods by its side, opens upon many beautiful and rich scenes. In some parts, the stream, shut up between high and narrow banks, foams along its rocky channel with tumultuous rapidity; and near the point where it emerges into the more open valley overlooked by the mansion, a bridge has been thrown, along which the path is continued; in other parts, the banks are less steep, and the prospects more extensive; but in all the views are richly adorned with pendant foliage. The river meanders through the grounds to an extent of about three miles, its banks being fringed with wood, rising to a considerable height through a great part of that distance: indeed, the landscapes are peculiarly rich; the most eminent, perhaps, is that which includes a mill between one and two miles below the house, and, with its adjuncts, composes a scene of uncommon grandeur and interest. Besides the poem of the 'Landscape,' Mr. Knight has written one of yet higher character, intituled the 'Progress of Civil Liberty,' which is divided into six books, treating in succession, on the subjects of Hunting, Pasturage, Agriculture, Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, Climate and Soil, Government and Conquest.

In

In the last book, the author thus expresses his wish to pass his latter days in the bosom of his own demesne:

Here, on thy shady banks, pellucid Team,
May Heaven bestow its last poetic dream;
Here may these oaks in life's last glimmer shed
Their sober shadows o'er my drooping head,
And those fair Dryads whom I sang to save,
Reward their poet with a peaceful grave.

RICHARD'S CASTLE, about four miles south-east from Downton, was erected before the Conquest, probably by *Richard Scrope*, in the time of Edward the Confessor;* but scarcely any vestige of this fortress now remains. At the period of the Domesday Survey, it was held by Osborne Fitz-Richard, whose grandson assumed the name of Say, and was killed in Wales in the reign of Richard the First. Margaret, his grand-daughter, conveyed it in marriage to Robert de Mortimer, from whose family, by an heiress also, it passed to the Talbots, who possessed it till the time of Richard the Second. It has since passed through various families, and is now, or was lately, the property of the *Salways*. On the declivity of the eminence contiguous to the Castle, a body of Royalists, amounting to nearly 2000 horse and foot, under the command of Sir Thomas Lundesford, were surprised, in the year 1645, by a force far inferior, headed by Colonel Birch, and dispersed with much slaughter. "Richard's Castle," says Leland, "stondeth on the toppe of a very rocky hill; and at the west end of the paroch church ther, the keep, the walles, and the towers of it stand, but going to ruine: ther is a park impaled, and welle wooded, but no deer."† Robert Mortimer procured a charter of a market and fair for this manor from King John, but both have long been disused.

WIGMORE, the head of the famous barony of the Mortimers, Earls of March, is reputed "one of the most ancient Honours in England,

* Dugd. Bar. Vol. I. p. 453.

† Itin. Vol. IV. p. 178.

England, and has twenty-one manors that owe suit to the Honour-court, held here once every six weeks. All the circuit of the land wherein these manors lie, is called Wigmore Land, and has two Constables, and gives name to the hundred. The privileges granted by our Kings to this Honour, were even *Jura Regalia*, as appears by *Stat. Parl.* eighteenth of Edward the First.* After the Conquest, this Honour became the inheritance of the *Mortimers*, who were descended from Richard, first Duke of Normandy, and came into England with the Conqueror. This family, which makes such a distinguished figure in the historical annals of Great Britain, settled at Wigmore, which appears to have previously belonged to Edric Sylviaticus, Earl of Shrewsbury, who having been vanquished, and made prisoner, by Ranulph Mortimer, was deprived of all his extensive possessions, which were then granted to Ranulph, by the Norman Sovereign, in reward for his important services. The Mortimers appear to have inherited an almost unconquerable intrepidity of spirit, and this, united with the vast influence acquired from their immense estates, enabled them, more than once, to disturb the peace of the kingdom; and at length, even the throne itself became the patrimony of their descendant, Edward the Fourth. The independent authority which they possessed as *Lords Marchers*, most probably combined with the state of warfare in which they were frequently engaged with the Welsh, to cherish and invigorate this decision of character, so that no sense of personal danger could allure them from the attempted accomplishment of a purpose once determined on.

In the reign of Henry the Fourth, the celebrated Owen Glendour, provoked by the injustice of Lord Grey of Ruthyn, took up arms, to recover possession of an estate, of which he had been unjustly deprived by that Nobleman. Henry sent assistance to Grey; and by this impolitic conduct, kindled the flames of a tedious and bloody war; for Glendour being supported by his countrymen, sustained the contest with invincible hardihood; and inspired by success, approached the estates of the Mortimers, committing

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 454; from Blount's MSS.

mitting almost every kind of depredation in his progress. The Earl of March advanced from Wigmore to give him battle; but, after a desperate struggle, was defeated, and made prisoner, according to tradition, by Glendour himself, after a personal combat sustained with great bravery. Shakespeare has alluded to this circumstance in his play of Henry the Fourth, where he makes the impatient Hotspur thus address the King, in reply to his refusal to ransom "revolted Mortimer."

"Revolted Mortimer!

He never did fall off, my sovereign liege,
 But by the chance of war; to prove that true,
 Needs no more than one tongue for all those wounds,
 Those mouthed wounds, which valiantly he took,
 When on the gentle Severn's sedgy bank,
 In single opposition, hand to hand,
 He did confound the best part of an hour
 In changing hardiment with great Glendour;
 Three times they breathed, and three times did they drink
 Upon agreement of sweet Severn's flood,
 Who then, affrighted with their bloody looks,
 Ran fearfully among the trembling reeds,
 And hid his crisped head in a hollow bank,
 Blood-stained with these valiant combatants."*

The conduct of Henry, in refusing to ransom the Earl of March, may be accounted for, by observing, that the latter was the real heir to the Crown after the resignation of Richard the Second, and of course, an object of eternal jealousy to the King, who equally dreaded and hated the whole family of March. His refusal, however, was attended by disastrous consequences; for Mortimer, indignant at the neglect, formed an alliance with Glendour, in conjunction with his relatives, the Percies of Northumberland; and, but for the celerity of Henry, who defeated the army of the latter near

* It should be observed, that the battle between Glendour and the Earl of March, was not fought on the banks of the Severn, as appears from this extract, but on those of the Arrow, in this county.

near Shrewsbury, before they could effect a junction with the other confederates, the Crown would have been torn from his brow. The army of Glendour himself, was dispersed near Leominster, by a sudden panic, occasioned by the pursuit and rapid approach of Prince Henry, afterwards Henry the Fifth, with the Royal forces. Glendour never recovered the consequences of this discomfiture; for being proscribed, and forced to become a wanderer, he is said, by some authors, to have been found starved to death in Haywood Forest, near Hereford: others, however, with more probability, represent him to have sought refuge at the house of one of his sons-in-law, either Scudamore, or Monnington, both of Herefordshire: tradition affirms, that he died at the abode of the latter, and that he was buried in the Churchyard at Monnington.

The situation of Wigmore is very romantic: its site is the slope of an immense mountain of bare rock, and the streets themselves are the undisturbed masses of stone; this circumstance will ever prevent the place attaining any considerable consequence, as it renders them almost impassable for horses and carriages. The *Church* stands on the very pinnacle of the hill, and close to a precipice, whose chasms are filled by large trees.

On an eminence westward from the village, irregularly intersected by ravines, and covered with underwood, are the ruins of **WIGMORE CASTLE**, now almost enveloped by a mantle of rich ivy. The outward wall is the most perfect, though of this a very considerable part is destroyed. Within the area, on a high artificial hill, are the ruins of the Keep, chiefly consisting of massive fragments, overlooking the country to the north and east, with much grandeur: on the west, the Castle is itself commanded by a more elevated hill, now covered by a flourishing young wood. When this building was originally founded is unknown; but it was certainly before the time of Edward the Elder, who is recorded to have repaired Wigmore. It was taken from Edric Sylviaticus, as before mentioned, by Ranulph Mortimer; and appears to have been soon afterwards re-built by William Fitz-Osborne, Earl of Hereford. "It is impossible," observes Mr. Gough, "to contemplate the

1 massive

massive ruins of Wigmore Castle, situate on a hill in an amphitheatre of mountains, whence its owner could survey his vast estates, from his square palace, with four corner towers, on a Keep at the south-west corner of his double trenched out-works, without reflecting on the instability of the grandeur of a family, whose ambition and intrigues made more than one English Monarch uneasy on his throne;—yet not a memorial remains of their sepulture.”* On the hills west of the Castle, were two parks, now ploughed up, and cultivated. The northern extremity of the DARVOLD HILL displays vestiges of a small CAMP.

About one mile from Wigmore, on the north, is the site of WIGMORE ABBEY, and *Grange*, founded for Augustine Canons, by Ranulph Mortimer, and his son, Hugh de Mortimer, previous to the year 1179. The endowments made by the latter were very great; and this establishment continued to flourish till the period of the Dissolution, when its annual revenues amounted, according to Speed, to 302l. 12s. 3½d. In the Abbey Church many of the Mortimers were buried, and among them five Earls of March; all of whose monuments were destroyed at the Dissolution, together with the building itself to the bare walls. About forty years ago, a stone coffin, with a small urn, holding ashes, “with some silver coin in the leaden coffin, which contained a body perfect, but mouldered on opening.”† The lands belonging to the Grange are rented at 500l. per annum.

CROFT CASTLE, between two and three miles south-eastward from Wigmore, was the ancient seat of the *Crofts*, a Saxon family of distinction and celebrity, who are known to have resided here in the reign of Edward the Confessor, but suffered a temporary deprivation on the coming of the Conqueror. Again recovering possession, their descendants continued to reside here till nearly the conclusion of the last century, when the family became extinct. The estate is now the property of Somerset Davis, Esq. who has also a seat called WIGMORE HALL, about two miles distant: the Castle has long been demolished. An extensive Park ranges on an eminence

* Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 454.

† Ibid.

eminence to the north from Croft, in the north-western part of which is a British Camp, with a double ditch and rampart, called **CROFT AMBREY**: the prospect from this site is very extensive and grand. On an eminence to the south-west, above **AVEMESTRE**, is a smaller **CAMP**, of a square form. The valley through which the river Lugg flows, in this part of its course, is extremely rich and picturesque; particularly near Avemestre, where the bridge, rocks, hanging woods, and beautiful meadows, compose a scene worthy of the pencil of a Claude.

The little village of **MORTIMER'S CROSS** is situated in a very beautiful valley, bounded by considerable eminences covered with fine timber, and watered by the picturesque stream of the Lugg. This place became celebrated from the battle fought between the partizans of the rival houses of York and Lancaster, on Candlemas Eve, 1461; the issue of which proved decisive in favor of the Earl of March. afterwards Edward the Fourth, who commanded in person. The immediate site of the battle was *Kingsland Field*, a level though not extensive plain, intersected by a brook, and extending southward. Here, in an angle of two roads, a neat Tuscan **PEDESTAL** of white stone has been erected, having on its base the following inscription:

This Pedestal is erected to perpetuate the Memory of an obstinate, bloody, and decisive Battle fought near this Spot, in the Civil Wars between the ambitious Houses of York and Lancaster, on the 2d Day of February, 1460,—between the Forces of **EDWARD MORTIMER**, Earl of March, afterwards **EDWARD IV.** on the Side of York, and those of **HENRY VI.** on the Side of Lancaster. The King's Forces were commanded by Jasper, Earl of Pembroke: Edward commanded his own in person, and was victorious. The Slaughter was great on both Sides; 4000 being left dead on the Field; and many Welsh Persons, of the first Distinction, were taken Prisoners, among whom was Owen Tudor, great Grandfather to Henry VIII. and a Descendant of the illustrious Cadwallader, who was afterwards beheaded at Hereford. This was the decisive Battle that fixed Edward IV. on the Throne of England: he was proclaimed King on the Fifth of March following.—

Erected by Subscription, 1799.

A concise

A concise account of this battle, and of the singular *Phenomenon* which occurred at the time it was fought, is thus given by Speed. "On the verge of this shire, but between Ludlow and Little Hereford, a great battail was fought by Jasper, Earle of Pembroke, and James Butler, Earle of Ormond and Wiltshire, against the Earle of Marche; in whiche three thousand and eight hundred men were slaine: the two Earles fled; but Owen Teuther was taken, and beheaded. This field was fought upon the daye of the Virgin Mary's Purification, in anno 1461; wherein before the battail was strok, appeared visibly in the firmament *three Sunnes*, which after a while joined altogether, and became as before; for which cause, as some have thought, Edward afterwards gave the Sunne in his full brightness for his badge and cognizance." This appearance has likewise been noticed by other historians. Drayton, in his 'Miseries of Queen Margarite,' has also mentioned it; and, with true poetical license, ascribed the victory obtained by the Earl of March, then Duke of York by the recent death of his father, to the invigorating hopes conceived from this phenomenon.

Three *Suns* were seen that instant to appeare,
Which soone again shut up themselves in one,
Ready to buckle as the armies were;
Which this brave Duke took to himself alone,
His drooping hopes which somewhat seem'd to cheere,
By his mishaps neare lately overthrowne:
So that thereby encouraging his men,
Once more he sets the White Rose up agen.

KINGSLAND is a pleasant, well-built, and neat village, having a very agreeable appearance, from a custom prevalent among the inhabitants, of shading their doors and windows with jessamine, woodbines, and grape-vines. The *Church* is a massive building, and consists of an embattled tower, with a nave, side aisles, and chancel. Kingsland was part of the great inheritance of the Mortimers: Margaret, widow of Lord Mortimer, procured a grant of a market and fair for this manor, in the thirty-fourth of Edward the First; but the former has long been disused. "Some say," observes Leland,

“there was a *Castle* at Kingsland, near the Parsonage House, and that King Merwald was buried there.” This manor was part of the estate of the late Lord Viscount Bateman, of Shobden Court.

SHOBDEN COURT, the elegant seat of Lady Bateman, is about two miles westward from Mortimer’s Cross. The Park is between three and four miles in extent, and includes some rich and picturesque scenery. On the decease of Lady Bateman, this estate will become the property of William Hanbury, Esq. of Kelmars, in Northamptonshire. *Shobden Church*, which stands near the Mansion, was built by Oliver de Merlylond, Steward to Hugh de Mortimer, about the year 1140, and a small PRIORY for Canons founded near it, but afterwards removed to Eye, and thence finally to Wigmore.

PEMBRIDGE, now a small village, about two miles south from Shobden, near the southern banks of the river Arrow, gave name to the ancient and honorable family of *Pembruge*, *Pembridge*, or *Brydges*, ancestors of the Lords Chandos, of whom Henry de Pembruge was High Sheriff of Herefordshire in the forty-second and third of Henry the Third; and Sir Richard de Pembruge, who lies buried in Hereford Cathedral, was made Knight of the Garter by Edward the Third. This was part of the estate of the Mortimers, who procured the privilege of a market for this place; and Henry the First granted it a charter of liberties: the market has been long disused.

LEOMINSTER

Is situated in a very rich and fertile vale, abounding with orchards, hop-yards, fine meadows, and arable lands. Its immediate site, as Leland describes, is “sumwhat lowe, and all the ground very neere about it is farre lower.” The river Lugg flows on its north and east sides; two smaller streams run through the town, and three other considerable rivulets pass it within half a mile. Its extent, from north to south, is nearly a mile; and from east to west, about half that distance. The suburbs are ill-built, and the streets in the centre of the town are narrow; but the stranger must be highly amused by the variety of old timber

and plaster houses, fantastically adorned with curious grotesque carvings, and colored white and black. Most of the modern buildings, however, and which have much increased within the last ten or twenty years, are respectable edifices of brick.

“The towne of *Leonminster*,” says Leland, “is metely large, and hath good buildinges of tymbre. The towne, by reason of their principall wool, use greate drapinge of clothe, and thereby it flourished. Syns of latter days it chanced that the cittytes of Hereford and Worcester complained of the frequency of people that came to Lemster, in prejudice of bothe their markets, in the shyre towne, and also in hindringe their drapinge: whereupon the Saturday markett was removed from Lemster, and a markett on Friday was newly assigned unto it; syns that time the towne of Lemster hath decayed.

“The antiquity of the towne is most famous by a *Monastery of Nunnes* that Merwaldus, Kinge of the Marches, built there, and endowed it with all the land thereabout, saving only the Lordshipe now called Kingsland; and it is supposed of Clerkes, that the old name of the towne toke beginning of the Nunnes, and was called in Welch, *Llan-llheny*; that is, *locus vel fanum monialium*; and not of a lion, that is written to have appeared to King Merwald, upon which vision he began, as it is said, to build this Nunnery: other Kings of the Marches immediately following King Merewald, were benefactors unto yt. Some say that the Nunnery was after in the Danes wars destroyed, and that after a College of Prebends set ther: the certainty is known that the Abbey of Shaftsbury had rule at Lemster, and possessed much landes there, and sent part of the reliques of St. Edward the Martyr to be adored there. King Henry I. annexed the laws of Lemster to his Abbey of Reading, and ther was a Cell of Monks instituted at Lemster by the Abbots of Reading. Some say that the monks of the Priory said that they had the scull of the head of Merewald, and of Ethelmund, Kings of Merch. Mr. Hackluit told me, that the body of King Merewald was found in a wall in the old church at Wenlok.

“Ther is but one Paroche Church in Leonminster; but it is large, somewhat dark, and of ancient building, insomuch that yt is a

greate likelihood that yt is the Church that was afore the Conquest. The Church of the Priory was hard joined to the east end of the Paroche Church, and was but a small thinge. The common fame of the people about Lemster is, that King Merewald, and some of his successors, had a Castle, or Palace, on an hill side by the town of Leonminster, half a mile off by east; the place is now called Comfort Castle, wher now be some tokens of diches, where buildings have been: the people of Lemster, and thereabouts, come once a year to this place to sport and play."

The etymology of the name of Leonminster, given by Camden, corresponds with that assigned by Leland; but other writers have attributed it to a different source. According to Hill, this town derives its present appellation from its situation at the conflux of the rivers Lugg and Oney; the latter name appearing to be the original denomination of the stream now called the Pinsley: thus *Lug-Oney-Minster*, which he supposes to have been its former name, would be softened into Leonminster and Leominster, in the same manner as Leominster is now in general discourse pronounced Lemster. In Blount's Manuscripts, another derivation is offered: after observing that the name of the town is spelt *Leofminstre* in the Domesday Book, he deduces that appellation from the minster or church of Leof, or Leofric, who was Earl of Mercia, and is styled *Comes Herefordiensum*, by William of Malmsbury. This etymology, though plausible, is not supported by any record, either oral or written, of any building ever having been founded in this town by Leofric: the probability, therefore, in favor of the opinion of Leland and Camden is by far the strongest.

Merwald, from whose religious foundation, and residence, or Castle, Leominster appears to have thus originated, was the son of Penda, King of Mercia, and brother of Peada, his successor, who was the first Christian Monarch of that state. How the Nunnery founded by him was restored after its destruction by the Danes is uncertain; but it is known to have existed here about the beginning of the reign of Edward the Confessor, when Swain, Earl of Hereford, eldest son of Earl Godwyn, inveigled Edgiva, the Abbess, from her Convent; for which offence he was banished the kingdom,

kingdom, but was afterwards permitted to return through the influence of his father.

The next transaction in which the name of Leominster occurs, was in the irruption into Herefordshire by Gryffyth, a Welsh Sovereign, and Algar, Earl of Chester,* anno 1055, when those chieftains seized upon the town, and strengthened it by fortifications, the remains of which may be traced even at the present period.† The approach of Earl Harold occasioned the Welsh to retire precipitately; though, according to some accounts, they were first routed in battle. Harold, having recovered the town, is supposed to have strengthened the works, and placed a garrison here for the better security of the inhabitants.

At the period of the Domesday Survey, Leominster had become a place of considerable consequence, as may be inferred from the particulars recorded in the Domesday Book. From that important register it appears, that the manor, with its appurtenances, consisting of sixteen dependent estates, had been assigned by Edward the Confessor, to his Queen Eddith, or Editha; and that it was governed by eight *Præpositi*, or Bailiffs; eight *Bedelli*, or Beadles; and eight *Radchenistri*, or free Tenants; and that it contained 238 *Villains*, seventy-four *Borderers*, and eighty-two men and women servants.

When the survey was made, the manor belonged to the King: great part of the customary rent was paid as composition for salt, fish, and eels. Here was also a wood six miles in length, and three broad; but part of it was even then began to be assarted, and cleared for tillage: an *aerie* of hawks is also mentioned in the same record.

About the time of William Rufus, the fortifications of Leominster were strengthened and enlarged, the better to secure it against the incursions of the Welsh. In the reign of King John, William de Braose,† or Braouse, Lord of Brecknock, a turbulent and

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high-spirited

* See under Hereford, p. 441.

† Price's History, &c. of Leominster, p. 8.

‡ This Nobleman was father of Bishop Egidius de Braose, who lies buried in Hereford Cathedral, see p. 475.

high-spirited Baron, who had several times been High Sheriff of this county, and was possessed of many of the Border Castles, revolted against that Sovereign, and making incursions into this neighbourhood, seized on Weobley Castle, and then marched against Leominster. The inhabitants knowing his cruel disposition, sought refuge within the works; but after a few weeks were forced to surrender; when De Braose plundered the town, and burnt great part of it, together with the Priory and Church, and treated the townspeople with much inhumanity: the buildings of that period are recorded to have been situated more on the western banks of the Lugg than they are at present.* De Braose was afterwards obliged to seek refuge on the Continent; but his wife, and eldest son, falling into the hands of the King, were barbarously starved to death in Windsor Castle.

The next historical occurrence in which Leominster was concerned, was subsequent to the defeat of the Earl of March by Owen Glendour,† who shortly afterwards took possession of the town, and confined Mortimer in a common dungeon, now converted into a stable, at the top of Church Street:‡ he also plundered the Church of many rich ornaments, and levied a very heavy contribution on the inmates of the Priory. After the battle of Shrewsbury, Glendour appears to have had some trifling success against the royal army; but finding himself in danger of discomfiture, he retreated from Leominster, and stationed his army in a strong camp, on a hill about two miles to the south. Prince Henry seemed willing to attack him in that situation; but finding the works almost inaccessible, took post on a neighbouring eminence, probably in expectation of what really happened, that want of provisions would oblige Glendour to abandon his entrenchments.§

Previously

* Blount's Manuscripts.

† See under Wigmore, p. 556—558.

‡ Price's Leominster, p. 20.

§ The ancient Camp in which Owen Glendour sought refuge, is thought to be that called IVINTON'S CAMP on the Brierley Hills. This supposition

Previously to this, however, Glendour hazarded a few skirmishes with the King's troops; but finding himself too strongly opposed to permit him to risk a general engagement, he gave orders to retreat; but the Prince, who appears to have attentively watched his every motion, pursued with so much celerity, that the Welsh army were seized with a sudden panic, and forsaking their leader, dispersed, and fled in every direction.

Previous to the battle between the Earl of March, and Jasper, Earl of Pembroke, in the year 1460-61, the Royal forces were strengthened by the garrison of Leominster; and here, after the victory obtained by the former, Morgan ap Reuther, David Floyd, Esq. and several other Welshmen of note, who had been made prisoners, were executed without trial. Nothing of particular interest relating to Leominster occurs in its annals, from this period till the death of Edward the Sixth, when the endeavours of the Duke of Northumberland to secure the throne for the Lady Jane Grey, occasioned an assemblage near the town of about 13,000 men in the Duke's interest. This force quickly began to diminish, as the success of the Princess Mary became more apparent, till at length the most zealous partizans of the Duke alone remained together; and they strongly entrenched themselves on a small eminence, called *Curnah* or *Coursenah Hill*, about one mile west from Leominster, and from this tower menaced the town with an assault. The inhabitants, who were mostly in favor of the regular succession, procured assistance from Hereford, from the forces then under the command of the Earl of Arundel, and headed by Philip Hobby, Richard Wallwayn, and Francis Throckmorton, made an attack on the entrenched camp, and, after a hard struggle, defeated and dispersed the adherents of the Lady Jane, whose party from this time could never assemble in sufficient number to disturb the public security. Mary appears to have consid-

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dered

supposition, which is exceedingly probable, induces a conjecture, that the *Camp* in which Prince Henry stationed his army to watch the motions of Glendour, was that which may yet be traced a few miles to the westward, nearly midway on the road between Stretford and Pembridge.

dered the service thus rendered as of considerable importance, for she soon afterwards rewarded the leaders with promotion, and granted the first regular charter of incorporation to this town, together with many valuable and extensive privileges.

The year 1610 gave birth to a contagious disorder at Hereford, and during its continuance the summer assizes were held in this town. One cause then decided here, shows the severity of the religious statutes then in force: this was the case of *Roger Cadwalader*, a Roman Catholic Priest, a native of Stretton-Sugwas, near Hereford, who was condemned, and executed, and his four quarters set up on different sides of the town, for taking orders beyond sea. In the time of Charles the First, the Oliverians erected a battery of cannon near the Church, in order to over-awe the inhabitants, who were thought to be too favorably disposed to the Royal cause: no event of historical celebrity has since occurred here.

The manor of Leominster, with all its appurtenances, then valued at 666l. 19s. 8d. annually, was given, by Henry the First, to Reading Abbey, which he had founded for the maintenance of 200 Benedictine Monks, and the refreshment of travellers, on the site of a more ancient religious establishment. In consequence of this grant, the Priory at Leominster became subordinate to the Abbots of Reading; and the town itself was governed by officers who held their places under their charter, and were chosen or approved by them, or by the Prior of Leominster. The principal officers were an Upper and Under Bailiff, who appear to have been assisted by a Common Council, formed of the principal Burgesses. Henry the Second granted the town its first annual fair in 1170; two additional fairs were granted by Edward the First, each of six days continuance. After the dissolution of the Monasteries, Leominster, with its various members, was held by the Crown, till the time of James the First, when it was granted by that Sovereign to his favorite the Duke of Buckingham, with the whole of its appendages, on condition of paying into the Exchequer the yearly rent of 305l. 11s. 5d. Part of this sum was probably intended to be paid over to the Queen, Anne of Denmark, in whom Leominster, with

with four of its dependant manors, had been vested, as parcel of her jointure. During the Interregnum, the estates which had belonged to the Queen, were in the possession of Henry Martin, Esq. one of the Judges of Charles the First, who was afterwards confined for twenty-seven years in Chepstow Castle; but, after the Restoration, the whole appears to have been restored to the then Duke of Buckingham, the spendthrift and profligate Villiers, of whom Pope has drawn such a masterly character in his Moral Essays. This Nobleman sold a very considerable part of the estates to different purchasers about the year 1662; and ten or twelve years afterwards, the remainder, including the manor and borough of Leominster, was taken possession of by Major Wildman, who had been an active supporter of the Parliament during the Civil Wars, and to whom the Duke was indebted the sum of 1400*l*. The Major obtained a regular conveyance of these estates in 1675; and, after the Revolution in 1688, sold several of them, and leased so many others for twenty-one years, that the proceeds of the residue scarcely amounted to thirty pounds more than the fee-farm rent payable to the Crown. He therefore, in 1692, sold all the remainder, including Leominster, to Lord Coningsby, who was then Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, for 3060*l*. The Earl of Essex, a descendant from his Lordship by the female line, is now owner.

The Church at Leominster is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul: the whole of that part of the structure appropriated to divine service, was erected at the beginning of the last century; the old Church, which seems to have been a magnificent fabric, having been partly destroyed, on the eighteenth of March, 1700, by an accidental fire, occasioned by the carelessness of some plumbers, who had been employed in repairing the leads. The particular cause of the fire, was the leaving of a pot of ignited charcoal during breakfast; the wind being strong, blew the flame upon some peas-halme, which had been laid under the roof, and this communicating with the timber, produced the conflagration by which great part of the edifice was destroyed. Soon afterwards, an estimate of the "charges necessary to put the Church into the same state in which it was before the fire happened," was made on oath,

and

and amounted to 14,541l. 18s. 1d. The expenses of the new fabric, however, exceeded this estimate by upwards of 2000l.

This Church in its present state is irregular, both in its form and architecture. The most ancient parts are the east wall, the north side, the tower, which stands at the north-west angle, the west end, and the wall, and windows of the south side. In the interior, the chief part is modern, excepting what is called the back aisle, which, as well as the lower part of the tower, is principally of Saxon workmanship. The exterior of the east end has three large buttresses, a high pointed window, with intersecting mullions, and two smaller windows. The ground to the eastward is uneven; possibly from the foundations of the Priory Church, which Leland mentions to have stood here, but which, as he also observes, "was but a small thinge." On the north side is a very strong semicircular arched door-way, with a smaller one within it, and three singular windows, having angular wooden mullions and gables with roofs: the clerestory windows, which appear above, have semicircular arches. The upper part of the tower is in the Pointed style, and embattled; the lower part is Saxon: it displays a singularly rich entrance *Door-way* on the west, having a recessed arch, with three pillars on each side, whose capitals are ornamented with sculptures of foliage, a couchant man, a tyger, snakes entwined round branches, and birds. The mouldings or arches supported by these pillars, are slightly pointed, but are embellished with lozenges and zig-zag work. Above this door-way is a mutilated recessed Saxon window, the capitals of the pillars on each side of which are highly ornamented with scrolls and tracery. Beyond the tower are two large pointed western windows; the largest, which is next the tower, is very rich in tracery-work; the mullions are uncommonly labored throughout, and those in the middle are supported by buttresses: the other window is more simple, but equally rich in ornament; the mullions are entirely covered with rosettes, as are the mouldings on the sides and within the arch; the windows on the south side are also all pointed, and embellished in a similar manner.

The

The interior length of this building is 125 feet; and its breadth 124; the northern and southern sides measuring each sixty-two feet. On the north side is the nave and north aisle of the ancient Church, which are separated from each other by a range of massive circular columns, with round arches, over which are Saxon arcades, and still higher, rude arched windows; the arch of the tower, which opens into this part, is pointed, and reaches nearly to the roof, which is here of timber; a corresponding row of massive columns range on the south side between the old and new parts of the building. The south side, which is the modern part, and that used for divine service, is spacious and lofty, and in a plain but neat style; the roof is sustained on four Tuscan pillars. The pews are of oak, and are regularly disposed: at the west end is a neat gallery, supported by Corinthian pillars; a fine organ was erected in this gallery in the years 1737, and 1738. The altar-piece is a painting of the Last Supper, from Rubens. Most of the ancient monuments contained in this Church, were destroyed by the fire in 1700: those which now remain, are not of particular interest. Some curious ancient stalls were destroyed also at the same time. Before the Dissolution, several chantries and altars were established in this Church. In the Church-yard are memorials of two females, named *Joan Seward*, and *Mrs. Wheel*, both of whom attained the great age of 103. Besides the Church, there are four places of religious worship in this town, for the respective denominations of Baptists, Presbyterians, Moravians, and Quakers: the Baptist Meeting House is a neat edifice. During the time of rebuilding the Church, divine service was performed in a contiguous building, anciently called the *Chapelle in the Forbury*, erected by Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, at the latter end of the thirteenth century. It was afterwards appropriated to the business of tuition, and thence called the *School-House*; but has of late years been converted into a regular *Theatre*; it is a plain building, with pointed windows.

The PRIORY was situated to the north-east of the Church, on the little river Pinsley; some of the buildings are yet standing: among them is the *Priory-House*, which has undergone various alterations

alterations since the Dissolution. Lord Coningsby had it fitted up as a County Gaol, he having purposed to procure the removal of the assizes from Hereford to this town. It was afterwards rented by the Corporation, and made a mansion-house for the Bailiff; but has since been converted into a *House of Industry* for the poor of the town. The north side, which has undergone the least alteration, has several lancet windows, and strong buttresses; which also support the angles at the east and west ends. The oil mill on the Priory Green, was the corn mill belonging to the Priory. An adjoining meadow, now called the Almery Close, was the site of the *Almery*, or *Almsbury*, a building from which the doles were delivered to the poor. The inmates of this Priory lived in considerable splendour; from a record of the time of Henry the Fourth, it appears that they had then as many as thirty-one servants. At the period of the Dissolution, their annual revenues amounted to 660l. 18s. 8d. of which sum about 448l. was paid to the Abbot of Reading.*

The *Town-Hall*, or *Butter Close*, as it is commonly termed, at Leominster, is a singular building, constructed of timber and plaster about the year 1633: the architect was the celebrated John Abel, who built the Shire Hall at Hereford, and constructed the Mills during the siege of that city in the year 1645.† This fabric stands on twelve oak pillars, now sustained on stone pedestals: the brackets and spandrils of the arches above the pillars, and the upper parts of the building, display much carving. Numerous square and angular compartments are formed by the disposition of the beams at the sides and ends of the structure, which also exhibits various shields of arms of those who contributed to defray the expense of raising it. The weight of the roof was much lessened, and the whole fabric repaired, some years ago. The Quarter Sessions are held here, as well as the Assemblies of the Corporation. In the Council Chamber is a half-length portrait of SIR CHARLES

HANBURY

* Tanner's Notitia.

† See under Hereford, p. 457, (note,) and p. 499.

HANBURY WILLIAMS, Knight of the Bath, father to the last Countess of Essex: Sir Charles was chosen one of the representatives for this borough in 1754. A new and neat *Market-House*, for the sale of grain, was erected by the Corporation in the year 1803: it is a little building, of the Tuscan order, with pediments and a cupola, standing in a small square to the eastward of the High Street. A new *Gaol* was built here about the year 1750.

Several improvements have been made in Leominster within the last fifteen or twenty years; but others are still wanting, and particularly the removal of the butcher's houses, near the Town-Hall. The trade of the town is flourishing, and many of the shops are very respectable, and well furnished. The clothing trade gives employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants; and the hat trade is also carried on to some extent. The wool grown in the neighbourhood is proverbially excellent.* The cyder manufactured here is also held in much estimation; and the hops are likewise in great repute.

The Corporation consists of a Bailiff, Chief Steward, Recorder, twenty-four capital Burgesses, a Chamberlain, two Serjeants at Mace, and some inferior officers. The first charter was granted by Queen Mary; but several others, comprising additional privileges, or confirming those already bestowed, have been given by succeeding Sovereigns. The Members of Parliament are chosen by the Corporation, and inhabitants paying scot and lot; the number of voters is about 500: the earliest return was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. An *Alms-House* for four decayed widows, each of whom have five pounds annually, has been endowed here by Mrs. Hester Clarke; and numerous other charitable benefactions have been made by different persons. The population of Leominster, as returned under the late act, amounted to 3019; the number of houses to 736. The site of the CASTLE, or *Palace*, mentioned by Leland, as belonging to Merwald, is supposed to be the mount to the eastward, which overlooks the Hay Lane.

BERRINGTON,

* See page 426, 427.

BERRINGTON, about four miles north-eastward from Leominster, was the seat and manor of the late Right Hon. Thomas Harley, brother to the late Earl of Oxford, who was Member for this county in five succeeding Parliaments. The Mansion, a square modern edifice, of white stone, is situated in a pleasant Park: the eminence to the south-east is covered with fine wood: on the north-east, near the angle of the roads leading to Eye and Brimpfield, is the site of a small CAMP.*

The manor of **ORLETON**, situated between five and six miles north from Leominster, was given by the Conqueror to Ranulph Mortimer, whose descendant, Edward the Fourth, held it distinct from the Crown lands, and had a particular seal, even after he was King, for the concerns of the Earldom of March; as appears from a charter of manumission granted to a villain of this place, bearing date 20th August, eighth of Edward IV. the seal of which is preserved entire, bearing the arms of Mortimer and Burgh quarterly, supported by lions rampant, and surmounted by a crown; with this inscription: *Sigillum Edwardi Quarti Dei Gra. Regis Anglie Francie Dni. Hibernie Comitatus sue Marchie.*† After Edward's death, the manor was annexed to the Crown, and was granted by James the First to George Hopton; from him it passed through several families to the *Blounts*, of whom Thomas Blount, Esq. was author of the '*Fragmenta Antiquitatis*,' or 'ancient Tenures and Customs of some Manors,' re-published by Mr. Josiah Beckwith, in 1784. He also wrote several other works, and made two folio volumes of Manuscript Collections for a History of Herefordshire. He died in December, 1679, and was buried in Orleton Church, with others of his family. **ADAM DE ORLETON**, successively Bishop of Hereford, Worcester, and Winchester, in the reigns of Edward the Second and Third, was a native of this place. His influence on the management of public affairs was very great; he was an active accomplice with Isabella and Mortimer in the deposition of Edward the Second, and, according to some, was author

* Taylor's Map of Herefordshire.

† Gough's Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 455, from Blount's MSS.

thor of the famous enigmatical line, exciting to the murder of that King, or otherwise, according to the mode of pointing:

Edwardum occidere, nolite; timere bonum est.

Edwardum occidere, nolite timere; bonum est.

The charges brought against him in the following reign, he contrived, however, to evade; and was afterwards appointed Ambassador to Philip, the French King, with whom he became a great favorite, and was, by his interest with the Pope, appointed to the See of Winchester, contrary to the wishes of his own Sovereign. Some years previous to his death, his eye-sight failed; and he had leisure, says his biographer, to 'repent of his past disorders.' He died at his Palace of Farnham, in 1345, and was buried in Winchester Cathedral.

About one mile south-east from Leominster is EATON, formerly the seat of the *Hackluyts*, of whom Walter de Hackluyt was High Sheriff of this county during the four first years of Edward the Second: the same office was also filled by several others of the family down to the time of Henry the Eighth. "The chief and ancientest of the Hackluits," says Leland, "have been gentlemen in tymes out of memory; they took their names of the forest of *Cluid*, in Radnorshire, and they had a Castle and habitation not far from Radnor." William Hackluyt, as appears from the same author, was at the Battle of Agincourt, and afterwards "set up a house," in this township: this mansion is now in ruins; and the Chapel belonging to it is a hop-kiln. Several of the Hackluyts lie buried at Leominster: of this family was Richard Hackluyt, the author of the Collection of Voyages which go under his name. The illustrious ADAM DE EATON, who was raised to the dignity of a Cardinal for his great learning, was a native of this township: He died at Rome, in the year 1397, much regretted. In February, 1800, a female, named MARGARET MAPPS, died at Eaton, at the great age of 110.

On the Brierley Hills, about two miles south-westward from Leominster, is IVINTON CAMP, a strong fortification, divided into two parts by a more modern entrenchment than the outer works.

works. This is supposed to be the Camp occupied by Owen Glendour, on his retreat before the army of Prince Henry. Many coins of the dates 1340, and 1390, have been found of late years in ploughing the interior parts.*

In HOPE Church, which consists of a nave and chancel, built by the Coningsbies of Hampton Court, was buried SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY, Knt. the founder of Coningsby's Hospital, at Hereford, who died in May, 1652. HUMPHREY CONINGESBY, Esq. and ANNE, his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Inglefield, Knt. were also interred here. Their effigies, with those of their seven children, are sculptured on a flat slab of alabaster in the chancel.

HAMPTON COURT, the principal seat of George Capel Coningsby, Earl of Essex, was built under the immediate auspices of Henry the Fourth, by his favorite, Sir Rowland Lenthall, who was Yeoman of the Robes to that Monarch. He "being a gallant fellow," says Leland, "either a daughter, or very near kinswoman, of the King's fell in love with him, and in continuance was wedded unto him; whereupon after, he fell into estimation, and had given to him 1000l. by the year, for the maintenance of him and his wife, and their heirs, among which landes he had Ludlow for one parte. This Lenthall was victorious at the battle of Agincourt, and toke many prisoners there, by which prey he beganne the new buildings of Hampton Court, and brought from an hill a springe of water, and made a little pool within the top of his house."† The lady alluded to in this extract, appears to have been a co-heiress of Richard Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel. How the estate descended is not clearly recorded; but Camden mentions it as having been "for some time possessed by the *Coningsbies*, a famous family in these parts;" and who purchased it of the Cornewalls, Barons of Burford. Frances, the daughter of Thomas Earl Coningsby, married Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, Knt. of the Bath: their daughter, Charlotte, married William Anne Holles Capel,

* Price's Leominster, p. 25, note.

† Itin. Vol. V. p. 66. See also Vol. VII. p. 152.

Capel, fourth Earl of Essex, whose son George, the fifth Earl of this family,* is now possessor in right of his mother.

The Mansion at Hampton Court is a large magnificent structure, situated on a spacious lawn, of nearly 100 acres, and protected on the north-east by an eminence covered with luxuriant foliage. About a quarter of a mile to the south-west flows the river Lugg, which, at some distance below the house, is joined by a beautiful little stream, that rises in the hills about Lockley Heath, and meanders through the Park in a south-westerly direction. This noble pile partakes partly of the castellated, and partly of the monastic character. The buildings surround a quadrangular court; having a grand square entrance tower in the centre of the north front; and at each extremity, another and smaller tower, the most eastern of which unites with the Chapel. The entrance tower is deeply embattled, and machicolated on both its faces. It is to be regretted, that much of this curious old Mansion was destroyed by incongruous alterations, began about the time of William the Third, and continued during the succeeding reigns: but in the various improvements that have since taken place, the building has been, in part, judiciously restored to its pristine character.† The interior is commodious, and many of the apartments are fitted up with great taste.

During the life of the late Lady Coningsby, Hampton Court was remarkable for much of the ancient furniture that constituted the magnificence of the nobility two centuries ago. One of the apartments, furnished in a splendid manner, with crimson damask hangings, and bed and canopy of the same, remains precisely in the same state as when used by William the Third, who here visited Thomas, Baron Coningsby, a nobleman particularly distinguished for his bravery at the Battles of the Boyne and Aghrim in

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Ireland.

* Some additional particulars of the Capel family will be inserted under the description of Cashiobury, in Hertfordshire.

† In the Vitruvius Britannicus are some plans and views of Hampton Court, by Campbell, who was the first architect employed to give these venerable walls a modern air.

Ireland. In the Library is an ebony casket, upon the lid of which are miniatures of the above Monarch and Lord Coningsby, copied with much taste from large pictures, by the present Lady Essex. Contained in this box is the *Handkerchief* applied by Lord Coningsby to the wound received by King William at the Battle of the Boyne. This relique may still be honored, as it immediately refers to an event which every lover of his country will reflect on with gratitude—the glorious Revolution of 1688.

Among the very valuable paintings preserved in this mansion, are some interesting pieces by C. Jansen, Holbein, Vandyck, Lely, Kneller, and Reynolds. One of the most famous among the old pictures was engraved by Vertue, and is said by Walpole to be an “undoubted original” of *Henry the Fourth*. Depending from the neck is a chain and medallion, on which are depicted the arms of the Fitz-Alans, Earls of Arundel; and beneath is the following inscription. “HENRY IV, King of England; who laid the first stone of this house, and left this picture in it, when he gave it to Lenthal, who sold it to Cornwall, of Burford, who sold it to the ancestors of the Lord Coningesby, in the reign of Henry VI.” The *Chapel* still retains traces of its pristine appearance: the roof is of timber-work, displaying many carved ornaments peculiar to the pointed style, and has various whimsical figures dispersed over it. Several of the windows contain painted glass in various stages of decay: the arms of Lenthall and others are yet entire.

The scenery around this mansion is in a high degree picturesque and beautiful. The Park is between seven and eight miles in circumference; and contains some fine timber. During the floods which frequently occur here in a rainy season, a fine cascade is formed by the rushing of the waters over a mass of broken rock. Near the house is a good shrubbery, intersected by a pleasant walk. More distant is a neat residence for the Steward; and at the entrance of the Park, is a very handsome Lodge, in the rustic style.

DYNMORE HILL is a very considerable eminence, rising to the south-west of Hampton Court, and commanding some extensive prospects over the surrounding country. Though not in general

so steep as other eminences in this county, the ascent is in some places very abrupt. The northern view is extremely rich, being varied with slopes of foliage, intermixed with fine meadows, and cultivated grounds, and bounded by distant mountains: on the opposite side, the descent commences with irregular declivities, and romantic breaks, occasioned by quarries; these form the foreground of a prospect composed of the venerable mansion at Burghope, Burghill covered with wood, and a very great extent of flat country, stretching to the south and south-west, where the view is terminated by the Skerrid or Scar, and the Black Mountains of Brecknockshire. "The Hill of *Dinesmore*," says Leland, "is very steep, high, and well-wooded, and a *specula* to see all the country about. Ther stondeth a litle by west of the very toppe on the left hand as I rode, a *Commandry*, (PRECEPTORY,) with a fair place that belonged to the Knights of St. John of Hierusalem in London;" to whom, as appears from Tanner, it had been given, by a Brother of the Order, in the time of Henry the Second. The lands of this foundation became part of the estate of Earl Coningsby; and are still, we believe, belonging to his descendant, the Earl of Essex.

BURGHOPPE HOUSE, formerly the seat of the ancient families of Goodyere and Dineley, but now going fast to decay, has ancient mullioned windows, with projecting pointed gables, and curious picturesque chimnies. Sir John Dineley, the last Baronet of this family, sold it to Governor Peachey, now Lord Selsey, about thirty years ago.

About one mile to the north of BURGHILL, are vestiges of an ancient tract, called the *Portway*, pointing towards Kenchester. On the summit of Burghill itself, are the remains of a square CAMP; and three miles distant, to the north-west, is another square CAMP, somewhat larger, about a mile from Canon-Pyon.

At WORMESLEY was a PRIORY of Augustine Canons, of the order of St. Victor, founded by Gilbert Talbot, in the time of King John, and dedicated to St. Leonard de Pionia. Its revenues, at the period of the Dissolution, were valued at the annual sum of 83l. 10s. 2d. Henry the Eighth exchanged the site of the Priory for other lands, with Edward, Lord Clinton.

At **MONKLAND**, or **MONKLOW**, was a small **CELL** of **BENEDICTINES**, subordinate to St. Peter's Abbey, at Conches, in Normandy, to which the Manor and Church had been given by Ralph Toni the Elder, in the time of William Rufus. On the suppression of the Alien Priories, this estate was granted, by Henry the Fifth, to Sir Rowland Lenthall, and Edward Windsor.

WEOBLEY,

An ancient corporate and market-town, formed part of the Barony of the *Lacies*, from whom, by a female, it was conveyed in marriage to the *Verdons*, who, by that alliance, were for some time Hereditary Constables of Ireland. It afterwards passed through various families to the *Devereux*'s, Earls of Essex, and formed their principal lordship. On the south side of the town stood an old **CASTLE**, which was taken from the Empress Maud by King Stephen. Leland mentions it as a goodly and fine building, but somewhat in decay.* The *Church* is spacious, and strong built; and contains two or three ancient burial Chapels. Some of the *Verdons* appear to have been buried here. The earliest return to Parliament from this town, was in the twenty-third of Edward the First: the right of voting is possessed by the owners of the ancient burghage houses, resident at the time of election, or by the inhabitants of such houses who have been resident forty days: the number of voters is about forty-five. This town is governed by Constables, who act as returning officers. The population of this parish, as returned under the Act of 1801, amounted to 608; the number of houses to 160.

In **SARNSFIELD Church-Yard** is the tomb-stone of **JOHN ABEL**, the celebrated architect of the Market Houses of Hereford, Leominster, Kingston, and Brecknock, who died at the age of ninety-seven, in the year 1694. This stone displays his own effigies, kneeling, together with those of his two wives, and the emblems of his profession, the rule, the compass, and the square: it was
designed

* Itin. Vol. IV. p. 176.

designed and sculptured by himself; the epitaph was also of his own writing, and runs thus :

This craggy stone a covering is for an architector's bed ;
That lofty buildings raised high, yet now lyes low his head ;
His line and rule, so death concludes, are locked up in store ;
Build they who list, or they who wist, for he can build no more.

His house of clay could hold no longer ;
May Heaven's joy build him a stronger.

JOHN ABEL

Vive ut vivas in vitam aeternam.

About two miles south-eastward from Sarnsfield, is the celebrated eminence called LADY-LIFT, from the summit of which the prospects burst upon the view with uncommon grandeur and sublimity. The vast extent of country which is here spread out before the sight, the great diversity and variety of its features, now swelling into bold hills mantled with rich woods, and again declining into luxuriant vales teeming with fertility, and animated by a thousand springs, the numerous orchards, corn-fields, hop-grounds, and meadows, intermingled with castles, seats, and villages, and bounded by a bold range of distant mountains, all unite in the composition of a scene which the powers of language are as incompetent to describe, as the art of the pencil is inadequate to delineate.

The Lady-Lift, with a long extent of beautiful grounds to the south-east, compose a part of the charming demesne of FOXLEY, the seat of Uvedale Price, Esq. the celebrated author of 'Essays on the Picturesque.' This gentleman is descended from Judge Price, who married the surviving heiress of the Rodds, by which he became possessor of this manor. Sir James Rodd, Knt. was High Sheriff of this county in the twenty-first of James the First; as was also Robert Rodd, Esq. in the reign of Charles the Second. The approach to Foxley from the village of Mansel-Lacy, is carried near the broken banks of a winding rivulet, that flows through the valley between the Foxley and Wormesley Hills, which rise to a considerable elevation, and are covered with fine trees, forming a kind of woody

amphitheatre round the mansion. This is a square and plain structure of brick, situated on the declivity of the westernmost eminence, and commanding some beautiful views over the Vale of Hereford; the distance being formed by various hills retiring in perspective, and the fore-ground by rich masses of wood. Most of the apartments are elegantly fitted up, and decorated with a good collection of paintings, by the first masters. Among them is an Old Man's Head, by Titian; a fine head of OLD PARR, supposed by Rubens; a large Battle Piece, by Berghem, exceedingly well colored; a Storm at Sea, by Vandervelde; and an upright picture of Ruins and Statues. From the house, a ride of about two miles on the side of the eminence, conducts through the grounds and plantations to the summit of the Lady-Lift, the views from which form a most delightful close to the picturesque and interesting scenery of this desirable abode. The beautiful woods of Foxley were chiefly planted by the late Mr. Price; but the improvements, made both in the woods and grounds by the present possessor, most eminently display his superior knowledge in the difficult science of landscape gardening.

GARNONS, the seat of J. G. Cotterel Esq. is finely situated on the south-western acclivity of Bishopstone Hill, and commands various extensive and rich prospects, in which the river Wye forms a principal feature. The grounds are ornamented with some extensive and flourishing plantations.

MONNINGTON was the property and seat of an ancient family of that name, who derived it from their residence on this spot, and one of whom married a daughter of the famous Owen Glendour: this chieftain is traditionally represented to have sought refuge, and to have been buried here.* The manor is now the property of Sir George A. Cornwall, Bart. of Moccas.

CREDENHILL is a very high and steep eminence, crowned by a vast CAMP, surrounded by almost inaccessible works, and forming a very conspicuous object for many miles round. Its apex, which composes the area of the Camp, includes an extent of about
forty

* See under Wigmore, p. 556.

forty acres, bounded by a double ditch and rampart. From the irregularity of its form, the origin of this strong post has been attributed to the Britons; but Dr. Salmon supposes it to be Roman, and used by them as an exploratory camp for the defence of the city beneath at Kenchester. The works are broken in many places, and the ditches partly obscured. The view from the summit of the Camp is one of the most extensive in Herefordshire, and equally beautiful. The declivity of the hill itself is finely covered with wood, which gives it a very grand effect; and particularly when viewed from the south, where its continuity of line is broken by several deep ravines. Three hundred fine oaks were lately cut down on this eminence, for the use of the navy.

Between one and two miles from Credenhill is the site of the Roman Town of KENCHESTER, the MAGNA of the Itinerary, which the judicious Horsley was the first to remove to this station from Old Radnor, where it had been erroneously fixed by Camden. The distances, as well as the general regularity observed in the course of the Itinerary, perfectly accord in support of this opinion; and the etymology of the appellation *Kenchester* itself, from *Ken*, or *Kyn*, first, or chief, and *Chester*, from *Chestre*, equivalent to the Roman *Castra*, appears equally in favor of this being the real MAGNA-CASTRÀ.

“KENCHESTER,” says Leland, “standith a 3 mile or more above Hereford, upward on the same side of the river that Hereford doth; yet is yt almost a mile from the ripe of Wye. This towne is far more auncient than Hereford, and was celebrated yn the Romans’ time, as apperith by many thinges, and especially by antique money of the Cæsars, very often found within the towne, and in ploughing aboute, the which the people there call *Duarfes Money*. The cumpace of Kenchester hath been by estimacion as much as Hereford, excepting the Castle, the whiche at Hereford is very spacious. Pieces of the walls and turrets yet appear *prope fundamenta*; and more should have appearid, if the people of Herford town, and other thereabout, had not in tyme past pulled down much and picked out of the best for their buildings.—By likelihood men of old time went from Kenchester to Hay, and so

to Breknok and Cairmardin. The place wher the towne was is all overgrown with brambles, hazles, and like shrubs. Nevertheless, here and there yet appear ruins of buildings, of the whiche the foolish people caull on (one) the *King of Feyres Chayre*. Ther hath been found *nostra memoria lateres Britannici, et ex eisdem canales, aquæ ductus, tessellata pavimenta, fragmentum catenulæ aureæ, calcar ex argento*, byside other straunge things.”*

The form of this station is an irregular hexagon, inclining to a parallelogram: the area is raised about four or five feet above the level of the adjacent country, and was formerly surrounded by a wall, the foundations of which may yet be traced, though overgrown with hedges, and fruit and timber trees. The south-west and south sides are the highest; the road that runs by the side of the former, seems to occupy the site of a ditch; but no appearance of any is visible on the other sides. Numerous inequalities, arising from the foundations, vaults, and ruins of buildings, overspread the area; and great numbers of Roman coins, bricks, leaden pipes, urns, burnt wheat, and large bones, have been dug up here. Towards the east end is a massive fragment remaining of what is supposed to have been a Roman Temple: it consists of a large mass of cement, of almost indissoluble texture, in which are embedded rough stones, irregularly intermixed with others that have been squared. This fragment is called the Chair, from a niche which is yet perfect: the arch is principally constructed with Roman bricks; and over it are three layers of the same materials, disposed lengthways. Here, in 1669, a Tessellated Pavement and stone floor were discovered; and in the succeeding year, according to Aubrey's Manuscripts, buildings of Roman brick were found, on which oaks grew.† About the same time Sir John Hoskyns discovered an Hypocaust, about seven feet square, the flues of which were of brick, three inches square, artificially let into one another.‡ Another Tessellated Pavement, of a finer pattern, was found about seventy years ago, but soon destroyed by the ignorant vulgar.

An

* Itin. Vol. V. p. 66.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 449.

‡ Ibid.

An aqueduct, or drain, of considerable extent, with the bottom entire, was also opened here about twenty years ago; and various other vestiges of the ancient consequence of this city are very frequently found. The entrances appear to have been on the east, west, north and south sides. About two furlongs to the north runs a small brook; and about twice that distance to the south, flows the river Wye. The course of the roads connecting with this station have already been described.*

Three miles southward from Kenchester, and on the opposite side of the Wye, is the little village of MADLEY, formerly the site of a CASTLE, of which the only memorial is the name of *Castle Farm*. Near the centre of the village is a small *Cross*, consisting of a square pedestal and shaft, with a transverse top: in the Church-yard are remains of another Cross. The *Church* is spacious, and has a crypt, now used as a Charnel House, beneath the Chancel.

On the banks of the Wye, about half a mile from LOWER EATON, the pleasant residence of the Rev. Mr. Phillips, is EATON CAMP, a large ancient entrenchment, with a single ditch and rampart, in good preservation: the area, which is cultivated, contains between thirty and forty acres.

At SUGWAS, on the opposite side of the Wye, was a *Palace* and *Chapel* belonging to the Bishops of Hereford. This was the favorite residence of Bishop Cantilupe, and was last inhabited by Bishop Ironsides, at the conclusion of the seventeenth century. The Palace has been long converted into a farm-house: the Chapel was taken down in 1792, when a handsome dwelling was erected on the spot.†

BELMONT, the pleasant seat of — Matthews, Esq. is about one mile below Eaton Camp, on a fine ascent, close to the banks of the Wye. The prospects are very rich and beautiful: they include a great extent of country, diversified by hills, finely wooded; and terminated on one side by the distant mountains of Radnorshire;

* See p. 406.

† Price's Hereford, p. 189.

shire; and on the other, by the Malvern Hills of Worcestershire. The mansion is an elegant building of Bath-stone, erected from the designs of Mr. Wyatt, between the years 1788 and 1790. The interior is fitted up with much taste, and contains some valuable pictures. The grounds are ornamented by some recent but flourishing plantations.

About four miles north-eastward from Hereford, is SUTTON WALLS, celebrated as the site of the *Palace* of Offa, King of the Mercians, where the unsuspecting Ethelbert was treacherously murdered;*

—when to th' unhallow'd feast
Of Mercian Offa he invited came,
To treat of spousals.—

PHILIPS'S CYDER.

Giraldus Cambriensis, in his life of St. Ethelbert, speaks of this place by the name of *King's Sutton*, and *South-town Walls*, and mentions some ruins of a Castle which he saw here. Leland also notices the “notable ruines of some auneyent and great building, sumtyme the mansion of King Offa, at such time as Kenchestre stood, or els Herford was a begynning.” *Sutton Walls* comprehends a spacious ENCAMPMENT on the summit of a hill, surrounded by a single rampart, with entrances to the north and south. The area includes about thirty acres, and is nearly level, excepting towards the centre, where there is a low place, called *Offa's Cellular*: in digging on this spot, a silver ring, of an antique form, was found some years ago.†

Sutton is included in the extensive manor of MARDEN, which was an ancient demesne belonging to the Crown, but given by King Offa to the Canons of Hereford, then termed the Presbytery of Marden, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert. *Marden Church* was built over the spot where Ethelbert was first buried, and where a well, which still exists, and is still called *St. Ethelbert's Well*, is said to have miraculously sprung up. This edifice
was

* See under Hereford, p. 459.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 446.

was dedicated to his memory, and stands within forty yards of the river Lugg. This neighbourhood abounds with good orchards, and the cyder is particularly celebrated.

About six miles from Marden, to the north-east, is **PENCOMB**; the Lord of the manor of which claims a pair of gilt spurs, as an herriot, from the estate of every Mayor of Hereford who dies in his Mayoralty.*

On an eminence at **PISBURY**, above Hampton Court Park, are vestiges of a large **CAMP**, forming one of a continued chain of Encampments crossing this county in a north-east direction. At **UPPERTON**, above Docklow, is a second, but smaller **CAMP**. At **NETHERTON**, about one mile and a half to the south-east, is a third and more considerable **CAMP**. At **BIRDENBURY**, still further to the south-east, a fourth **CAMP**: and four miles north-eastward from that, near Thornbury, a fifth **CAMP**, on the summit of **WALL HILL**.

NETHERWOOD, an extensive manor on the north-east side of Wall Hill, in Thornbury Parish, was part of the estate of the Mortimers, of whom **ROGER MORTIMER**, Earl of March, was a native of this place.† After the Battle of Bosworth Field, William Baskervyle, of the house of Erdesley, who had accompanied the army of Richmond, afterwards Henry the Seventh, from Leominster, and fought valiantly in his cause, received a grant of it from that Sovereign. In the following century it was sold by Thomas Baskerville, Esq. and having passed through several families, was purchased, about the time of Charles the First, by Edward Pytts, Esq. whose descendant, John Pytts, Esq. of Kyre House, is now owner. The mansion is recorded to have been a noble structure, and was surrounded by a Park of nearly 1000 acres. In the former was born the great, but unfortunate, **ROBERT DEVEREUX**, Earl of Essex, Queen Elizabeth's favorite and victim. This nobleman was the son of Walter, Earl of Essex, and Viscount Hereford. He was educated at Cambridge, and succeeded his guardian, the
great

* Blount's Tenures.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 459.

great Lord Burleigh, in the Chancellorship of that University. In 1585, he accompanied the Earl of Leicester, who had married his mother, to Holland, where he obtained the rank of General, and was greatly distinguished for his bravery at the battle of Zuphen. After his return to England, he was introduced at court, and rose very rapidly in the estimation of the Queen; whose affection he would probably have retained, if his high spirit could have submitted to the endurance of her caprices, or his indignation been less permanent. During his short-lived prosperity, he was entrusted with various important commands, in all of which he displayed great abilities and valor, but not sufficient prudence, arising, probably, from immaturity of judgment. Frank and ingenuous in his nature, he wanted art to discover, and to counteract, the base dissimulation of his enemies, who, envious of his high fortune, stimulated him to those fatal extremities which proved his ruin, and to which the warmth of his natural temper too violently hurried him. "He seemed," says Granger, "to think it a prostitution of his dignity to put up an affront from the Queen herself; and was as honest and open in his enmity, as he was sincere in his friendship." He was beheaded on Tower Hill, in the year 1600-1, at the age of thirty-three or thirty-four.

BROMYARD

Is a small market town, irregularly built, and badly paved; nearly half the buildings are of wood, and very small: the others are of red brick, of modern construction. The *Church* stands on the north-east side, and is of Saxon origin: the south Doorway has the zig-zag and other ornaments; above it is a Cross, and the figure of St. Peter in relief. This structure is now undergoing repairs; the pillars of the nave have been heightened, to support a new roof; but the original capitals are preserved. Several semicircular arches appear above the wainscoting in the side aisles of the nave. In the north transept is an altar-tomb in memory of a *Knight* of the Baskerville family, whose effigies is sculptured on the slab. At the east end is a tomb in memory of PHINEAS

JACKSON,

JACKSON, vicar of Bromyard, who died in November, 1681; having made various small bequests for charitable purposes in this town and neighbourhood. The population of Bromyard township, in 1801, was returned at 983; the number of houses at 242. The river Frome passes within a short distance to the east of this town; and several smaller streams flow on the north and west sides.

The roads from Bromyard to the south are extremely indifferent; but the country is exceedingly beautiful, being variegated with woody eminences, teeming orchards, rich meadows, and flourishing corn-fields. The villages are very inconsiderable, mostly consisting of a few scattered houses adjacent to a small Church. On the Roman Road at STRETTON GRANDISON, are traces of a square CAMP, where Mr. Baxter, apparently on insufficient authority, has placed the *Circuitio* of Ravennas.

STOKE, or STOKE-EDITH, the principal seat of the *Foleys*, in this county, derives the latter part of its name from the dedication of the Church to St. Editha, daughter of King Egbert. In the time of the Edwards Second and Third, it was the property of the *Walkwayns*; but previously to the reign of Henry the Eighth, it had passed from that family, and in the time of that Sovereign, it came into the possession of Sir John Lingein, by marriage with the heiress of the *Milwaters*. His descendants sold it to Paul Foley, Esq. about the time of Charles the Second; and it continued to be the chief seat of the younger house of the *Foleys* till the extinction of the elder branch, at Whitley, in Worcestershire, when the late Lord Foley removed thither; and this estate was left to his second son, the Hon. Edward Foley. The Mansion is a spacious brick building, with wings, erected soon after the estate was purchased into this family, and standing in a very pleasant Park, on a kind of terrace. The Hall displays some fine painting, by Sir James Thornhill; and in the other apartments, which are fitted up with taste, is a good collection of family portraits. The Park and grounds are well-wooded, and display some very fine scenery, which has been considerably improved within the last twelve or fifteen years, under the direction of Mr. Repton. The shrubberies are extensive, and the Park is stocked with deer.

About a mile and a half from this Mansion, on the south-west, and occupying the summit of a commanding eminence, is **ST. ETHELBERT'S CAMP**, said, by popular tradition, to be the spot where Ethelbert pitched his tents when on his journey to the Court of King Offa.

On the west side of the same eminence is **SUFTON COURT**, which formed part of the Honour of Earl Ferrers, and is remarkable from having been the residence of the ancient family of the *Herefords*, from the seventh of Henry the Third, till about the year 1786, when its late possessor, Sir James Hereford, bequeathed it to his nephew, who has since assumed the name of Hereford by the King's license. This gentleman has erected a handsome Mansion of Bath stone, a few hundred yards from the site of the old house, and in a more elevated situation. The ancient residence is, however, yet standing, though somewhat ruinous; and, together with the old furniture, is preserved with care. Here also the grounds have undergone considerable alteration under the plastic hands of Mr. Repton. Blount's Manuscripts record, that the family of Hereford held this manor, by the service of presenting the King with a pair of gilt spurs whenever he should ride over Mordesford Bridge.

LONGWORTH, the seat of James Walwyn, Esq. whose predecessors have frequently had the honor of representing the city of Hereford in Parliament, and filling the office of High Sheriff for the county, is situated between one and two miles from Sufton, on the opposite side of the river Frome. This family derives its name from Gwallain Castle, in Pembrokeshire. Sir Peter Gwallain was engaged in the conquest of Brecknockshire, with the army of William Rufus, and for his services had certain lands assigned him at the Hay, in that county, and which are still denominated *Wallwain's Rents*. Thomas Wallwayn, who died in the fifth of Henry the Fifth, bequeathed Longworth to William, his younger son, whose descendants have ever since continued to reside here. The Mansion was rebuilt a few years ago, and fitted up with much elegance. The apartments are decorated with some good pictures; and the Library contains a select and valuable collection of books. The grounds display some fine timber, and the scenery is pleasant.

MORDESFORD,

MORDESFORD, a small place near the junction of the Lugg with the river Wye, is celebrated in traditional history, as the scene of a furious combat between a *winged Serpent*, and a malefactor who had been sentenced to die, but was promised his pardon, on condition of destroying the wily monster. The abode of this animal is said to have been a neighbouring woody steep: his depredations were great and alarming; man and beast were alike subjected to his ravages; and no one could be found sufficiently hardy to attempt his destruction, till the love of liberty and life, invigorated a condemned criminal to engage in the perilous enterprize. The serpent, proceeds the tale, was wont to resort to a particular spot near the confluence of the above rivers, to slake his thirst, and here the assault was made, the man having previously concealed himself near the water-side. The contest was of some continuance, but was at last terminated by the destruction of the fell ravager; whose poisonous breath, however, proved fatal to the valorous champion, and bereaved him of life in the moment of victory. In memory of this event, a large green dragon, with expanded wings, and web-footed, is painted on the east end of Mordesford Church. A variation in the traditional account, represents the monster thus slain as amphibious, and as having been left upon the banks after a considerable flood.

Another marvellous occurrence connected with this quarter of Herefordshire, took place in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when MARCLEY HILL, according to Camden, whose judgment was in this instance imposed on, "rose as it were from sleep, and for three days, moved on its vast body with an horrible noise, driving every thing before it to an *higher ground*."* Fuller asserts, that the whole field that moved was twenty acres, and that it travelled fourteen hours, and ascended eleven fathoms up hill, leaving a chasm 400 feet wide, and 520 long.† Sir Richard Baker, who delighted in recording the wonderful, has thus detailed the particulars of this event in his 'Chronicle of England.'

"In

* Gough's Translation, Vol. II. p. 443.

† Worthies, Herefordshire.

“ In the thirteenth year of Queen Elizabeth, a prodigious earthquake happened in the east parts of Herefordshire, at a little town called KINNASTON. On the seventeenth of February, at six o'clock in the evening, the earth began to open, and a hill, with a rock under it, making at first a great bellowing noise, which was heard a great way off, lifted itself up, and began to travel, bearing along with it the trees that grew upon it, the sheep-folds and flocks of sheep abiding there at the same time. In the place from whence it was first moved, it left a gaping distance, forty foot broad, and fourscore ells long: the whole field was about twenty acres. Passing along, it overthrew a Chapel standing in the way, removed a yew tree planted in the Church-yard, from the west to the east: with the like force it thrust before it highways, sheep-folds, hedges, and trees; made tilled ground pasture, and again turned pasture into tillage. Having walked in this sort from Saturday evening till Monday noon, it then stood still.”

In Taylor's Map of Herefordshire, the spot of ground whose motion gave rise to these various relations, is named WONDER; and, according to present appearances, was nothing more than a *Land-slip*, arising probably from causes similar to those which occasioned the like phenomenon at Pitlands, in the Isle of Wight, in February, 1799.* The land that moved, seems to have been about two acres; but its motion was certainly agreeable to the common laws of gravitation. The yew tree is still existing; and the Chapel bell was dug up a few years ago.

MUCH-MARCLE, or GREAT MARCLE, was part of the barony of the Lacies at the period of the Domesday Survey; but afterwards coming to the Crown, was granted, by Edward the First, to Edmund Mortimer, whose descendants inherited it till the time of the last Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, who demised it to the Wallways; but it has since passed through various families. Near the Church, says Blount, ‘ stood MORTIMER'S CASTLE, the site visible; and another, perhaps, more ancient, called ELLINGHAM CASTLE, the site overgrown with wood, and called the Quarry Wood,’

* See under Pitlands, p. 400.

Wood,' at a little distance from the village. Some ancient but mutilated effigies within the Church, were supposed, by the same author, to represent **BLANCHE**, daughter of Roger Mortimer, and wife to John Lord Audley, temp. Richard the Second; and the great **ROGER MORTIMER**, executed at the Elms, in Smithfield, and **JOAN**, his lady, daughter of Peter de Genevil. In a small Chapel, built here by **SIR JOHN KYRLE**, Bart. is the tomb of himself, and his lady **SIBYLLA**.

About one mile and a half north-west from Ledbury, is a conical eminence, called **WALL HILLS**, the lower part of which is surrounded by large trees, and the summit crowned by a spacious **CAMP**. The area comprehends between thirty and forty acres, now appropriated to the growth of corn and hops. The single rampart which inclosed this Camp, is half levelled: it had three entrances, one of them called the King's Gate. In ploughing the area, spear and arrow-heads have been found, together with brass coins, horse-shoes of an antique form, and human bones.

LEDBURY

Is an ancient market and borough town, situated on a declivity within a small valley, formed by the Dog-Hill, and other eminences, and about one mile west from the river Leddon, from which it derives the first syllable of its name. It chiefly consists of two streets, crossing each other at right angles: the principal street runs north and south, and has a middle row near the old *Market-House*, which is elevated on strong oak pillars, and composed of timber and lath plastered and white-washed; the beams being colored black. This mode of building predominates in the more ancient parts of the town; and many of the houses have projecting stories: the modern houses are of red brick, and respectable. The pavement, even in the High Street, is extremely bad, and full of inequalities: the small stones that form it, being pressed into the stiff clay, which is the general kind of soil in this part of the county.

Ledbury formerly belonged to the See of Hereford, to which it was given by a Saxon named Edwin, who imagined himself cured of the palsy through the intercession of St. Ethelbert. Bishop Bohun procured the charter of a market for this manor from King Stephen, to be held on Saturdays; but this falling into disuse, Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1584, granted a new charter for a Tuesday market, and two annual fairs; the tolls to be given to the poor. This borough had once the privilege of sending two Members to Parliament, but afterwards surrendered its right, on the plea of inability to support them.

The Church is a large building, of Saxon origin, but has undergone many alterations at different periods. Bishop Trevenant made it collegiate about the year 1401, establishing here a Master, or Deacon, and eight secular Priests, besides Clerks and other servants: the College was dissolved in the first of Edward the Sixth: the Deacon's lodgings is now the *School-House*, on the north side of the Church. This structure consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel; a *Chapel*, dedicated to St. Catherine; and a detached tower, terminated by a finely-proportioned spire, about sixty feet high. The west front has a curious Saxon *Door-way*, having semicircular mouldings ornamented with zig-zag, and resting on three pillars on each side, having capitals ornamented with masks and foliage. The west windows of the nave and side aisles, are high and pointed; having strong buttresses between them, bounded by pillars, and terminating in turrets. The north porch is handsome: the upper part of the tower, which stands on this side, has been re-built; the spire was probably raised at the same time. The nave has octagon pillars with pointed arches; and was divided from the chancel by a very beautiful carved screen, half of which has been removed, to make room for a seat for one of the *Portionaries*,* or Impropiators. The chancel appears to

* "The Church has two sinecure Rectors, called *Portionaries*, because they change their portion of tythes, and other returns, every third year: they are in the Bishop's gift, and receive institution and induction, and these two alternately nominate the vicar." *Gough's Camden*.

to have formed part of the original building, and displays several short massive columns, with semicircular arches: several of the ancient stalls are remaining here. On the north side is the Chapel of St. Catherine;† this is nearly square, and has five pointed windows, the mullions of which spread into rich ramifications, the whole being adorned with rosettes. The windows have been decorated with painted glass, as well as others in different parts of the Church; but the whole is now reduced to confused fragments. Numerous Sepulchral memorials are contained in this fabric: among them are several ancient and curious tombs, but greatly mutilated. In the north aisle is the defaced effigies of a Lady, unknown, lying on an altar-tomb, richly ornamented with arches and shields; and having the broken remains of a canopy, on which are other shields, bearing three lions passant. In the chancel are the effigies, in alabaster, of EDWARD SKYNNER, Gent. of Ledbury, his wife, and ten children. The former died in 1631, at the age of eighty-seven, having survived his lady (who died at the age of eighty) three years. Robert Skinner, Bishop of Worcester, and the late Lord Chief Justice Baron Skinner, were of this family. In the south aisle is the burial-place of the *Biddulph* family: it contains eight monuments, the most elaborate of which was erected to the memory of MICHAEL BIDDULPH, Esq. of Crofton Hall, Worcestershire. Among the other memorials, is an inscription, recording the inter-

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ment

* “ Katherine Audley, or, as she is commonly called, St. Katherine, was a religious woman in the reign of Edward the Second, and had a maid called Mabel, and not being fixed in any settled place, she had a revelation, that she should not set up her rest till she came to a town where the bells should ring of themselves. She and her maid coming near Ledbury, heard the bells ring, though the Church doors were shut, and no ringers there. Here then she determined to spend the remainder of her days, and built an Hermitage, living on herbs, and sometimes on milk. The King, in consideration of her birth or piety, or both, granted her an annuity of 30l. Rex præcepit vicecomiti Hereford quod omnes terras et teneamenta quæ fuerunt Petri de Limesey in Monyton & Dilew caperentur in manum regis; & quo de exitibus eorundem solveret annuatim Caterinæ de Audley reclusæ de Ledbury 30, li.” “ Pat. 2. H. IV. p. 3, 14, 15.” *Gough's Camden, Fol. II. p. 456.*

ment of JAMES BAILY, of Ledbury, who died in December, 1674, "aged 100 years and eight months. He was younger brother to Humphry Baily, of Ocul Pychard, and of Samuel Baily, late of Hereford. These three brothers lived the age of three hundred years: what one wanted, the other made up. *Mors rapit omnia.*" Here also is an inscription in memory of ANNE, wife of Ambrose Elton, Esq. of the Hazel, and daughter of Sir Edward Ashton, Knt. and Bart. She died on the fifth of February, 1660, having had seventeen children, of whom she lived to see eleven married; and of their issue more than 120 persons.

An *Hospital*, in honor of St. Catherine, was founded here by Bishop Foliot, about the year 1232, for six single men, two men and their wives, and two widows. At the Dissolution, the revenues of this establishment were valued at 32l. 7s. 11d. annually. Queen Elizabeth re-founded it for a Master, seven poor widowers, and three poor women, each to be allowed 6l. 13s. 4d. annually; besides clothes and firing.* This allowance has been since augmented to five shillings weekly. The Hospital is a very ancient timber and plaster building, standing near the Market-House: the Chapel is also ancient, but plain; the windows exhibit fragments of painted glass. A *Free-School*, partly supported by rents issuing from dissolved Chantry lands, established in the Church previous to the Reformation, and a Charity School, have been founded here; besides several Alms-Houses; and numerous benefactions have been given for the use of the poor. The clothing trade was at one period very flourishing; but the principal business now carried on here, is the manufacture of ropes, lines, and sacks for meal. Great quantities of cyder are manufactured in this neighbourhood; and the cyder trade is very flourishing. The inhabitants of Ledbury, as ascertained under the Act of 1801, amounted to 3058; the number of houses was 618. The Bishops of Hereford had a Palace here.

On the well-wooded eminence called the Dog-Hill, to the north of Ledbury, is HOPE END, a small but very pleasant seat, belonging to Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Bart.

About

* Tanner's Notitia.

About two miles southward from Ledbury, and east from Dinington, is the VINEYARD CAMP, the works of which have been almost defaced by the plough: the area is cultivated.

In the *Church* belonging to the beautifully situated village of EASTNOR, are several handsome monuments of statuary marble, for various individuals of the Cocks family. One of them, in memory of JOSEPH COCKS, Esq. who died in 1775, at the age of forty-two, was executed by Stewart and Scheemaker, and exhibits the bust of the deceased, with other sculptures. Another, by the same artists, is erected to the memory of MRS. MARY COCKS, and displays a figure of Hope, with a rich urn, and a boy inverting a torch. A third, and very neat monument, commemorates the name of JOHN COCKS, Esq. nephew to the great Lord Somers: he died in 1771.

Near Eastnor, on the south-east, is CASTLE DITCH, the seat of Charles Cocks, Baron Somers of Evesham, whose grand-father married Mary, sister and co-heiress of the great Lord Somers, the illustrious promoter of the Revolution of 1688. His present Lordship was created a Peer in May, 1784. The mansion is situated on a fine lawn, having a rivulet flowing on each side; it is a small plain building of white stone, with a portico in front, and projecting semicircular wings. The contiguous grounds are disposed into walks winding through very thick shrubberies: the Park contains some very large and flourishing oaks, and the surrounding eminences are covered with woods.

Between one and two miles east from Castle Ditch, in a glen of the Malvern Hills, stood BRANSILL CASTLE, now wholly demolished, but originally of a square form, with a round tower at each angle, and a double moat surrounding it. From the appearance of the site, it must have been exceedingly strong: the surrounding scenery is very picturesque and beautiful.

About two miles northward from Bransill Castle, on the summit of one of the highest ridges of the Malvern Hills, and on the very verge of Worcestershire, are the immense works of the HEREFORDSHIRE BEACON, one of the strongest and most important hill fortresses in this Island. The vast labor employed in its construction,

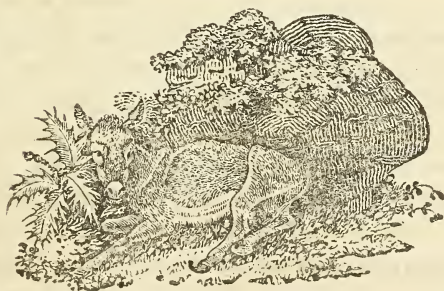
construction, its amazing belts of ramparts and trenches, its great extent, its well-chosen situation, which commands what was anciently the only pass through the Malvern Hills, and which indeed is very nearly so even to the present hour, its singular irregularity of form, and evident dissimilitude to the modes of fortification observed by the Danes, Saxons, and Romans, all combine to establish its origin, which must unquestionably be ascribed to the Britons. The same reasons, also evince, that it was not constructed for mere temporary purposes, but rather for permanent security; as a place wherein an entire district might seek refuge, with all their possessions, whether of flocks or herds, in case of invasion, or any other sudden emergency.

It is almost impossible for words to convey a complete idea of this immense strong-hold; the works are too vast, the heights too unequal, and the base of the eminence too extensive. The general shape of the hill, at least of that portion occupied by the works, approaches to an ellipsis; and the disposition of the banks and ditches, correspond with that figure. The area of the centre, and highest part, is an irregular parallelogram, measuring about sixty yards in its longest diameter, and nearly forty in its shortest: this is surrounded by a high and steep rampart of stones and earth, now covered with turf; and that again defended by a very deep ditch. Considerably below this, on the acclivity of the hill, ranging towards the south-west, or rather south-west by south, is a very extensive out-work, or bastion, of an oval form, containing a sufficient area for the stowage, and even pasturage, of horses and cattle. This is connected by means of a narrow slip of land, running beneath the south-east side of the upper ditch, with a similar kind of bastion, or out-work, ranging eastward, and manifestly intended for similar purposes. Both these works are surrounded by a high rampart and deep ditch; and the inclosed areas have evidently been levelled by art as far as the natural shape of the eminence would admit. Still lower on the acclivity, are successive ranges of ramparts and ditches, very steep, deep, and high, encircling the sides of the mountain, and rendering it nearly, if not utterly, inaccessible.

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The views from the summit of this majestic work include a vast extent of country; and Herefordshire from this height, assumes a very distinct character to that of the contiguous districts of Worcester and Gloucester. It appears to be composed of an immense continuation of oblong, conical, and irregular hills, principally covered with fine timber; the deep shadows of whose luxuriant foliage project over the most beautiful vales, abounding with orchards, corn-fields, and hop-grounds. The distance in the west, is finely marked by the range of the Black Mountains, and the hills of Radnorshire. The prospects to the east and south-east, are yet more extensive, including a very large proportion of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, which appear spread out before the sight, variegated by all the charms of Nature and cultivation. The Herefordshire Beacon itself is most eminently conspicuous for many miles round; and forms an object of uncommon grandeur.

END OF HEREFORDSHIRE.



LIST

OF THE

Principal Books, Maps, and Views, that have been published in Illustration of the Topography and Antiquities of the Counties contained in this Volume.

HAMPSHIRE.

"*Collections for the History of Hampshire, and the Bishopric of Winchester; including the Isles of Wight, Jersey, Guernsey, and Sarke.*" Six Volumes, 4to. This Work consists of Compilations from every Book that the Printer could procure relating to Hampshire. See Gentleman's Magazine, 1797, p. 47, where are many Errors pointed out and corrected; and many others have remained unnoticed.

"*Topographical Remarks relating to the South-Western Parts of Hampshire; with a descriptive Poem: by the Rev. Richard Warner.*" Two Volumes, 8vo. 1793.

"*Hampshire Repository; or, Historical, Economical, and Literary Miscellany; a provincial Work, of entirely original Materials, comprising all Matters relative to the County, including the Isle of Wight.*" 8vo. Vol. I. and II.

"*A Companion in a Tour round Southampton;*" by J. Buller, 12mo. 1801, pp. 312.

"*A Companion in a Tour round Lymington, comprehending a brief Account of that Place and its Environs; by Richard Warner.*" 12mo. pp. 265.

"*Nomina Villarum of the County of Southampton; or, a List of Divisions, Boroughs, Hundreds, Liberties, Parishes, and Tythings, within the said County. Published by Order of Session, 1791.*" pp. 58.

"*Remarks on Forest Scenery; with a particular Reference to the New Forest, Hampshire; with Plates:*" by the late Rev. W. Gilpin. 2 Vols. 8vo.

"*Southampton Guide; or, an Account of the ancient and present State of Southampton and its Neighbourhood.*" 18mo. 1804, pp. 102. The first Edition of this Guide was published in 1768, 12mo. by the Rev. Mr. Ledwich, Author of the Antiquities of Ireland, Antiquitatis Saris-buriensis, &c.

"*History of the Brotherhood or Guild of the Holy Ghost, in the Chapel of the Holy Ghost near Basingstoke, in Hampshire.*" 8vo. 1742, pp. 43; by Samuel Loggon.

"*The Ruins of a Temple, a Poem; by the Rev. Joseph Jefferson.* To which is prefixed, an Account of the Antiquity and History of the Holy Ghost Chapel, Basingstoke, Hants. With an Appendix, containing Historical and Explanatory Notes." 4to. pp. 20. 1793.

"*An Attempt to ascertain the Situation of the ancient Clausentum;*" by the Rev. Richard Warner, 4to. pp. 40, 1792.

In King's *Munimenta Antiqua*, Vol. II. is a very interesting Description of *Porchester Castle*, with Views and Ground Plans.

"*The Ancient and Modern History of Portesmouth, Portsea, Gosport, and their Environs.*" 12mo. pp. 121.

"*A new Portsmouth Guide*; being a Description of the ancient and present State of the Place." 12mo. pp. 57. 1790.

"*A Walk through Southampton*," by Sir Henry C. Englefield, Bart. F. R. S. and F. A. S. 4to. and 8vo. 1801.

"*The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne*;" by the Rev. Gil. White, 4to. 1739. The *Natural History* was separated from the *Antiquities*, and re-published in 2 Vols. 8vo. 1801.

A Description and Plan of the Roman Station at *Silchester*, was given by Dr. Stukeley, in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*; and a still more particular Account, with a Plan also, by Professor Ward, was inserted in the *Philosophical Transactions*, No. 474, p. 200.

In Carter's *Specimens of Ancient Sculpture and Painting*, are Representations of some Antiquities at *Romsey Church*, *Christ Church*, and the *Hospital of St. Cross*, near Winchester.

WINCHESTER.

"*The History, Civil and Ecclesiastical, and Survey of the Antiquities of Winchester*; by the Rev. John Milner." 2 Vols. 4to. 1793, with Plates, and a Plan of the City in its ancient State.

"*A short View of the History and Antiquities of Winchester: with a brief Account of the Seats of the neighbouring Nobility, Gentry, &c.*" Chiefly extracted from the two 4to. Vols. of the Rev. Mr. Milner's *History and Survey of Winchester*." 8vo. pp. 47, 1802.

"*An Historical and Critical Account of Winchester Cathedral*; with an engraved View and Ichnographical Plan of that Fabric, extracted from the Rev. Mr. Milner's *History and Antiquities of Winchester*. To which is added, a Review of its modern Monuments." 8vo. pp. 148, 1801.

"*The Life of William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester*; collected from Records, Registers, Manuscripts, and other authentic Evidences: by Robert Lowth, D. D. Prebendary of Durham, and Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty." 8vo. pp. 404, 1758.

"*The History and Antiquities of the Cathedral Church of Winchester*; containing all the Inscriptions upon the Tombs and Monuments; with an Account of the Bishops, Priors, Deans, and Prebendaries. Also the History of Hyde Abbey. Begun by the Right Hon. Henry, late Earl of Clarendon, and continued to this Time by Samuel Gale, Gent. adorned with Sculptures." Lond. 1715, 8vo.

"*Description of the City, College and Cathedral of Winchester*; exhibiting a complete and comprehensive Detail of the Antiquities and present State: the Whole illustrated with several curious and authentic Particulars, collected from a MS. of Anthony Wood, preserved in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, the College and Cathedral Registers, and other original Authorities, never before published: by Thomas Warton."

Some Historical Particulars relating to *Winchester*, were written by Thomas Rudborn, a Monk of that City, and published by Henry Wharton, in the *Anglia Sacra*, Vol. I.

"*The History and Antiquities of Winchester*; setting forth its original Constitution, Government, Manufactories, Trade, Commerce, and Navigation; its several Wards, Parishes, Precincts, Districts, Churches, religious

religious and charitable Foundations, and other public Edifices: together with the Charters, Laws, Customs, Rights, Liberties, and Privileges, of that ancient City. Illustrated with a Variety of Plates. In 2 Vols. Winton, 1773." 12mo.—This was not published till April, 1775.

"*The Plea of the Fellows of Winchester College against the Bishop of Winchester's local and final visitatorial Power over the said College.*" Lond. 1711, 4to. In the Appendix are Accounts of Bishop Wainflete's Visitation, 19th Sept. 1449; Archbishop Cranmer's, 16th June, 1535; Bancroft's, 11th Jan. 1607; and Laud's, 16th July, 1635. The Appellants being refused a Hearing in the Courts of Arches and Chancery, all made their Submission, and acknowledged the Bishop's Plea, except Archdeacon Brideoke, who was expelled from his Fellowship, and could never get reinstated.

"*A Narrative of Proceedings in the Dispute between the Bishop of Winchester and the College of Winchester*, concerning his Jurisdiction: together with an Account of those Designs which brought on that Dispute." Lond. 1713, 8vo.

"*Lieutenant General Cromwell's Letter concerning the taking Winchester Castle*, with Mr. Peters's Report to the House of Commons." 1645, 4to.

"*The State of the County Hospital at Winchester*," 1746. 8vo.

In the *Archæologia*, Vol. I. p. 91, is a Copy of a *Petition from the City of Winchester* to Henry VI. praying to be exempted from certain Taxes, on Account of its ruinous State.

PLANS AND PRINTS.

Winchester.—A Plan of this City, by William Godson, was published in 1750, "with Views of the Cathedral, (North Side,) the Bishop's Palace, the College for Ministers' Widows, St. Mary's College, Market-Cross, the County Hall, Guild-Hall, the King's House, St. John's House, and those of Henry Penton, Esq. Mrs. Townsend, William Pescod, Esq. the Recorder, and Edward Sheldon, Esq. and a Plan of the Round Table."

"A correct Plan of the City and the adjacent Parts, with the Hessian Camp, by Order of Count Isenberg, by F. W. Baur, Ingenieur," 1756.

Ichonography of the Buildings adjoining to Winchester College, for the Reception of young Gentlemen. W. H. Toms, Sc.

An East View of the City in 1736, is among Buck's large Views.

Another in Stukeley's *Itin. Cur.* Pl. 88. S. W. View by E.

South View of the Cathedral, by King, from Newcourt.

A View of the Cross has been engraved by Direction of the Society of Antiquaries, 1741.

East Prospect of the Inside of the County-Hall in Winchester. R. Benning, Sc.

East View of the Palace, by Buck, 1733. Another was engraved by James Peak, from a Drawing taken on the Spot by an Officer, 1760.

The beautiful Monument of Wykeham was drawn and engraved by J. K. Sherwin, Pupilo to Bartolozzi, 1774.

"*A Narration of the great Victory obtained by the Parliament's Forces under Sir William Waller at Alton, in Surrey*, [should be, Alton, in Hampshire,] Dec. 13, 1643, &c." Lond. 1643, 4to.

"*A true Relation of the Marchings of the Red Trained Bands of Westminster, the Green Auxiliaries of London, and the Yellow Auxiliaries of the Tower Hamlets, under Sir William Waller, from October 16 to December 20, 1643; briefly delineating most of the chiefest Passages in the Service, performed by Sir W. W. at Basing, Farnham, and Alton:*" by Elias Archer, Captain. Lond. 1643, 4to.

"*The Souldier's Report concerning Sir William Waller's Fight against Basing House on Sunday last, Nov. 12, 1643, to give Satisfaction to the whole Kingdome concerning that Designe;* wherein are these Particulars, viz. 1. How considerable a Thing it would be in Case it could be taken. 2. How strongly it is both upon the Walls and the House. 3. Sir William Waller's Onset, and the Manner of the Fight. 4. The Reasons of the Retreat. 5. The sending up of some Prisoners taken by Sir William Waller, namely, one Lord, one Popish Priest, &c. 1643." 4to.

"*Journal of the Siege of Basingstoke Castle.* Oxf. 1644." 4to.

"*A Description of the Siege of Basing Castle,* kept by the Lord Marquisse of Winchester, for the Service of his Majesty against the Forces of the Rebels under the Command of Colonell Norton, Anno Domini 1644." 4to.

"*Lieutenant General Cromwell's Letter to the Speaker, of the storming and taking of Basing House, with the Mayor of Winchester, Sir Robert Peake, and several other Officers of Quality,*" Oct. 14, 1645, 4to.

"*News from Basingstoke of one Mrs. Blunden, a Maltster's Wife, who was twice buried alive:* for which Neglect several Persons were indicted at the last Assizes held at Winchester, and the Town of Basingstoke compelled to pay a great Fine." An undated Pamphlet.

"*A Declaration of all the Passages at the taking of Portsmouth; shewing the Reasons why it was surrendered up to the Committee of both Houses of Parliament:* together with a true Copy of the Articles agreed upon between the Committee and Colonel Goring." Lond. 1642, 4to.

"*A true Relation of the Passages which happened at the Town of Portsmouth at the late Siege,* which began the 12th Day of August last, and was surrendered on the 9th Day of September following, 1642; written by one who was employed in the Service." Lond. 1642, 4to.

"*Portsmouth; a descriptive Poem:*" by R. Maxwell. 1755, 4to.

"*The Borough* (of Portsmouth:) being a faithful, tho' humorous, Description of one of the strongest Garrisons and Sea-Port Towns in Great Britain; with an Account of the Temper and Commerce of the Inhabitants: left by a Native of the Place, who was lost in the Victory Man of War, and now published for the Benefit of the Gentlemen of the Navy, and the Entertainment of the Rest of Mankind; by Robert Wilkins." Lond. 1748, 8vo.

"*The Beeriad;* a Poem: with a Description of a Ram Feast held annually in a small District of Hampshire." Gosport, 1756, 4to.

"*The History of the Blacks of Waltham, in Hampshire; and those under the like Denomination in Berkshire.*" Lond. 1723, 8vo.

"*The honourable Entertainment given to the Queen's Majestie in Progress at Elceham, in Hampshire, by the Earl of Hertford, 1591. London, printed by J. Wolfe, 1591.*" A Copy of this is in the Royal Library at Cambridge. It was reprinted in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1779, and again in the Collections for Hampshire.

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

Mr. Richards, of Jesus College, Oxford, wrote a Burlesque Poem, in Answer to the Muscipula, intituled, "*Hoglandia; or, a Description of Hampshire;*" 1719, 8vo. a Mock Heroic Poem, &c. Reprinted, with an English Translation, in 1728, 8vo.

John Speed, M. D. of St. John's College, Oxford, and Grandson of the Historian, wrote "*Batt upon Batt: a Poem upon the Parts, Patience, and Pains, of Barth. Kempster, Clerk, Poet, Cutler, of Holyrood Parish in Southampton: by a Person of Quality. To which is annexed, The Vision, wherein is described Batt's Person and Ingenuity; with an Account of the ancient and present State and Glory of Southampton;* by the same Author. Dedicated to the Gentry of Hampshire, for their Diversion, but more especially to the Inhabitants of Southampton." Lond. 1680, 4to. The Fifth Edition, Lond. 1706, 8vo. Wood says, both these were esteemed very ingenious Things. The Sixth Edition, 1711, was printed for Cooper in London, without Date, in 8vo.

"*The Ruins of Netley Abbey,*" by George Keate, Esq. Lond. 1764, 4to. A Second Edition of this Poem, published in 1769, was intituled, "*Netley Abbey, an Elegy;*" with a prefatory History of the Abbey, and other Additions.

"*Hackwood Park, a Poem.*" Lond. 1766, 4to.

"*Fossilia Hantonienſia Collecta, et in Museo Britannico deposita:*" a Gustavo Brander, R. S. et F. A. R. Mus. Brit. Cur. Lond. 1766." 4to.

"*Scapin Triumphant; or, a Journey to Petersfield and Portsmouth:*" by William Rover. Lond. 1757, 4to.

In the *Archæologia*, Vol. IV. p. 117, is an Account of a singular Discovery of Bones in *Christ-Church Priory*, by Gustavus Brander, Esq.

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS. In No. 177, p. 1212, is an Account of some remarkable Effects of a great Storm of Thunder and Lightning at *Portsmouth*, Oct. 23, 1685; and in Vol. XLIX. p. 351, is an Account of the Agitation of the Waters, Nov. 1, 1755, at *Portsmouth*.

In No. 444, p. 362, is Dr. Baylie's Account of an Earthquake at *Havant*, Oct. 25, 1734.

In No. 475, p. 273, are Observations on two ancient Camps in this County, near *Buckland Castle*, or the *Rings*; by Mr. Thomas Wright.

"*Observations on the Coasts of Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent*, relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, made in the Summer of 1774;" by the late W. Gilpin, M. A. 8vo. Lond. 1805.

"*General View of the Agriculture of the County of Hants;*" by Abraham and William Driver. Drawn up and printed for the Board of Agriculture, 1794.

MAPS, PRINTS, &c.

A Survey of "*Hampshire, or the County of Southampton, including the Isle of Wight*, by Thomas Milne, made in the Years 1788, 89, and 90, executed and published at the private Expence of the Proprietor, W. Faden, Charing Cross, 1791." This consists of Six Sheets, and contains Plans of Winchester, and of Southampton.

"*A Plan of the Roads, Gentlemen's Seats, &c. twelve Miles round Southampton, with the Isle of Wight, &c.*" Baker, Southampton.

A Plan of new Roads, &c. round Southampton, &c. by — Dowell, of Romsey.

A Chart of Southampton Water.

A View

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

A View and Prospect of the Town and Harbour of Portsmouth, with the Fleet under Lord Anson and Sir Peter Warren, by Christopher Seton, 1747.

View of Southampton from the Round Hill, near the Four Posts. William Bellers, Del J. Mason, Sc. 1760.

N. View of Netley Abbey, by Buck, 1733.

S. E. View of Ickfield Abbey, by Buck, 1733.

Hollar engraved a *View of Porchester Castle*, after F. Place; Buck also a *N. W. View of the same Fortress* in 1733; and Armstrong and Toms another, 1737.

A *View of Langston Harbour*, near Havant, in Hampshire, at Sunset, engraved by J. Mason, after a Drawing by W. Bellers, 1763.

Prospects of *Hurst*, and the *W. Side of Cowes Castle*, by Hollar, after F. Place.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

"History of the Isle of Wight:" 4to. pp. 436, 1781. This was written by Sir Richard Worsley, Bart.

"A new, correct, and much improved History of the Isle of Wight, from the earliest Times of authentic Information to the present Period; comprehending whatever is curious or worthy of Attention in Natural History, with its Civil, Ecclesiastical and Military State, in the various Ages, Ancient and Modern." 8vo. pp. 670, 1795. Newport. This is chiefly compiled from the former: the new Matter forms but a very small Part.

"A Companion to the Isle of Wight; comprising the History of the Island, and the local Description of its Scenery, and Objects of Curiosity." 12mo. pp. 105, 1802. Newport.

"A Tour to the Isle of Wight," with Plates; by J. Hassell. 2 Vols. 8vo. 1790. Lond.

"The History of the Isle of Wight, Military, Ecclesiastical, Civil, and Natural. To which is added, a View of its Agriculture. By the Rev. Richard Warner." 8vo. pp. 326, 1795.

"A Picture of the Isle of Wight, delineated upon the Spot, in the Year 1793: by H. P. W." (Henry Penruddocke Wyndham.) 8vo. 1794.

"A Tour to the Isle of Wight; illustrated with Eighty Views, drawn and engraved in Aqua-Tinta: by Charles Tomkins." 2 Vols. 8vo. 1796, Lond.

"A Journey from London to the Isle of Wight," by Thomas Penant, Esq. has been published, in 2 Vols. 4to. since the Death of the Author. Part of the Second Volume only relates to this Island.

"General View of the Agriculture of the Isle of Wight," by the Rev. Mr. Warner. Drawn up and printed for the Board of Agriculture, 1794.

HEREFORDSHIRE

Has never been illustrated by a complete Topographical History. Various Collections have been made at different Periods; and one 4to. Volume has been recently published under the express Patronage of the Duke of Norfolk, who possesses considerable Property in the County. The Title merely announces *"Collections towards the History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford,"* by John Duncumb, A. M.

4to.

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

4to. Hereford, 1804. This Volume is occupied with a general Description of the County, and a detailed History of the City of Hereford.

An Historical Account of the City of Hereford: with some Remarks on the River Wye, and the natural and artificial Beauties contiguous to its Banks, from Brobery to Wilton. By John Price. 8vo. Hereford, 1796. With Views, Plans, &c.

"Introductory Sketches towards a Topographical History of the County of Hereford;" by the Rev. John Lodge, B. A. Kington printed, 8vo. 1793.

The Second Volume of *"Bonner's Copper-Plate Perspective Itinerary"* contains "Ten Views of Goodrich Castle, its Environs, and Flanesford Priory on the Banks of the Wye; with various miscellaneous Articles of Antiquity in the Vicinity; with a descriptive Account." 1798.

"History and Antiquity of the City and Cathedral Church of Hereford." 8vo. 1717. This was published, and probably compiled, by Dr. Rawlinson.

"Account of the Churches of Dore, Homlacy, and Hempstead," by Matthew Gibson, A. M. 4to. 1727.

"History and Antiquities of Leominster," by John Price." 8vo. 1795.

"General View of the Agriculture of the County of Hereford," by John Clarke." 4to. 1794. Drawn up and printed for the Board of Agriculture.

Various Particulars relating to the Towns, Villages, Seats, Castles, &c. contiguous to the *Wye*, may be found in the Publications on the Scenery of that River, by Gilpin, Ireland, Heath, &c.

"Strange News from Lemster, in Herefordshire," being a true Narrative, given under several Persons' Hands there, of a most strange and prodigious Opening of the Earth in divers Places thereabouts. Also a true Relation of several wonderful Sights, viz. a Hand, an Arm, and Shoulder, of the Bigness of a Man's; and Saddles of Blood-colour, which were seen to rise out of the Earth, and ascend up to the Skyes. Likewise, a strange and terrible Noise of Fighting, which was heard during this miraculous Accident. All attested by several Persons of Worth and Reputation; and exhibited for public Information." Lond. 1679, 4to.

"The First Part of Earl Coningsby's Case, relating to the Vicarage of Lempster, in Herefordshire," wherein is contained a full Account of all the Tricks which the Lawyers, Ecclesiastical and Temporal, have made Use of to deprive the said Earl of his undoubted Right to present to the said Church of Lempster, (not worth Seventy Pounds per Annum,) from the Year 1712 to the last Summer Assizes at Hereford; when the present Lord Chancellor, on Pretence that it was his Majesty's Right to present to the said Vicaridge of Lempster, though there is no such Vicaridge in the King's Books, with Mr. Kettleby, Recorder of Ludlow, (confirmed in that Place by his Lordship's Interest,) for his Council, and Sir George Caswall, the Cashier of the South-Sea Company, (made by his Lordship a Justice of the Peace for that Purpose,) for his Assistant; Thomas Price, the Earl of Oxford's Steward of his Courts, for his Attorney; and Thomas Rodd, the vilest of all Attorneys, for Price, his Coadjutor, prosecuted the Quare impedit against the said Earl at the said Summer Assizes with Success; but how the Success was obtained, the Second Part of this Case will shew." 1721. fol.

"A Survey of the Manor of K-(ingston,)" in the County of H-(ereford;) containing Particulars of the several Farms following, now in the Possession

Possession of his Grace the Duke of K-(ington,) Lord of the said Manor, surveyed by Edward Laurence, Surveyor;" and annexed to his Duty of a Steward to his Lord. Lond. 1727, 4to. and 1743, 8vo.

"*An Account of the Manor of Marden*, by Thomas, Earl Coningsby," was printed in 720 Folio Pages, but never published. The late James West, Esq. who had Two Copies of it, had written in them, that "This Work gives great Light into the Antiquities, Manors, and Lands, of this County." In one of the Copies was a MS. Account of a Monument in the Church of *New-Sollars*, in Shropshire, erected 1628, to the Memory of Humphry Coningsby, Esq. a great Scholar, and a great Traveller, who, from his fourth Journey, 1610, was never heard of more.

In the Article of *Cyder*, observes Mr. Gough, in his British Topography, "Herefordshire has great Obligations to Dr. John Beale, in whose Family, Natives of the County, a Zeal for the Plantation of Orchards was Hereditary. Two Letters of his to Samuel Hartlib, were printed in 1656 and 1724, 8vo. intitled, "*Herefordshire Orchards a Pattern for all England*;" by which he so raised and extended their Reputation, that within a few Years the County gained some Hundred Thousand Pounds by it. Many of his Letters to Mr. Boyle are published in the Fifth Volume of Boyle's Works; and others in the Philosophical Transactions, and in Birch's History of the Royal Society, Vol. I. p. 145, 172."

Mr. John Philips has immortalized *Cyder* "in an elegant Poem with that Name, in which he has interwoven many Episodes and Digressions in Honor of the County, and its principal Inhabitants, and which, since its first Publication, 1706, has passed through many Editions, and was translated into Italian by a Nobleman of Florence." A new Edition of it was published in 1791, "with *Notes Provincial, Historical, and Classical*, by Charles Dunster, M. A." Very particular Attention has also been given to the Manufacture of this Beverage by Mr. Marshall, in the Second Volume of his "*Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*," under the Head of *Management of Orchards and Fruit Liquor in Herefordshire*.

MAPS AND PLANS.

A Survey of the County of Hereford, by Isaac Taylor, was published in 1786, in Four Sheets; with a Plan of Hereford, and numerous Coats of Arms.

A Plan of the City of Hereford, by Isaac Taylor, was engraved by R. Benning, in 1757. This is embellished with several Views of Buildings, &c. in the City.

A Plan of the intended Navigable Canal from Hereford to Gloucester, was published by J. Clowes, Engineer, and Richard Hall, Surveyor, in 1791.

In Hearne and Byrne's Antiquities is a beautiful Print of the *Interior of Hereford Cathedral*, as it appeared in Ruins.

Buck published Views of *Brampton-Brian*, *Branstill*, and *Wigmore Castles*; and also a View of *Hereford*.

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TO THE

SIXTH VOLUME

OF THE

BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

* * The Names of MARKET TOWNS are printed in small Capitals; and those of *Villages* in Italics.

The principal Abbeys, Castles, Churches, Encampments, Monuments, Pictures, Portraits, Priories, Roman Stations, and Antiquities, *described* in this Volume, will be found referred to in the Index under one of these Heads.

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Corrections and Additions to Vol. VI.

Page 69, line 24, *for* 871, *read* 891.

P. 150, l. 9, *for* Sir Bartlet Lucy, *read* Sir Berkeley Lacy.

P. 180, l. 18, Note, *for* Lieutenant, *read* Lord.

Same p. l. 33, Note, *for* name, *read* patriotism.

P. 184, last l. *after* Roman Gallies. *insert* Buckland Rings, together with a considerable estate extending from the Lymington River to the sea, belongs to Dr. Tomline, Bishop of Lincoln, who is said to have an intention of building here.

P. 222, l. 12, *for* Restoration, *read* Revolution.

P. 256, l. 1, Note, *for* annual, *read* occasional.

P. 271, l. 8, *for* grandfather, *read* father.

P. 281, l. 29, *for* were, *read* was.

P. 290, l. 22, *for* Drurer, *read* Durer.

P. 331, l. 7, *after* destroyed by fire, *read*, the former in this harbour, the latter at Spithead.

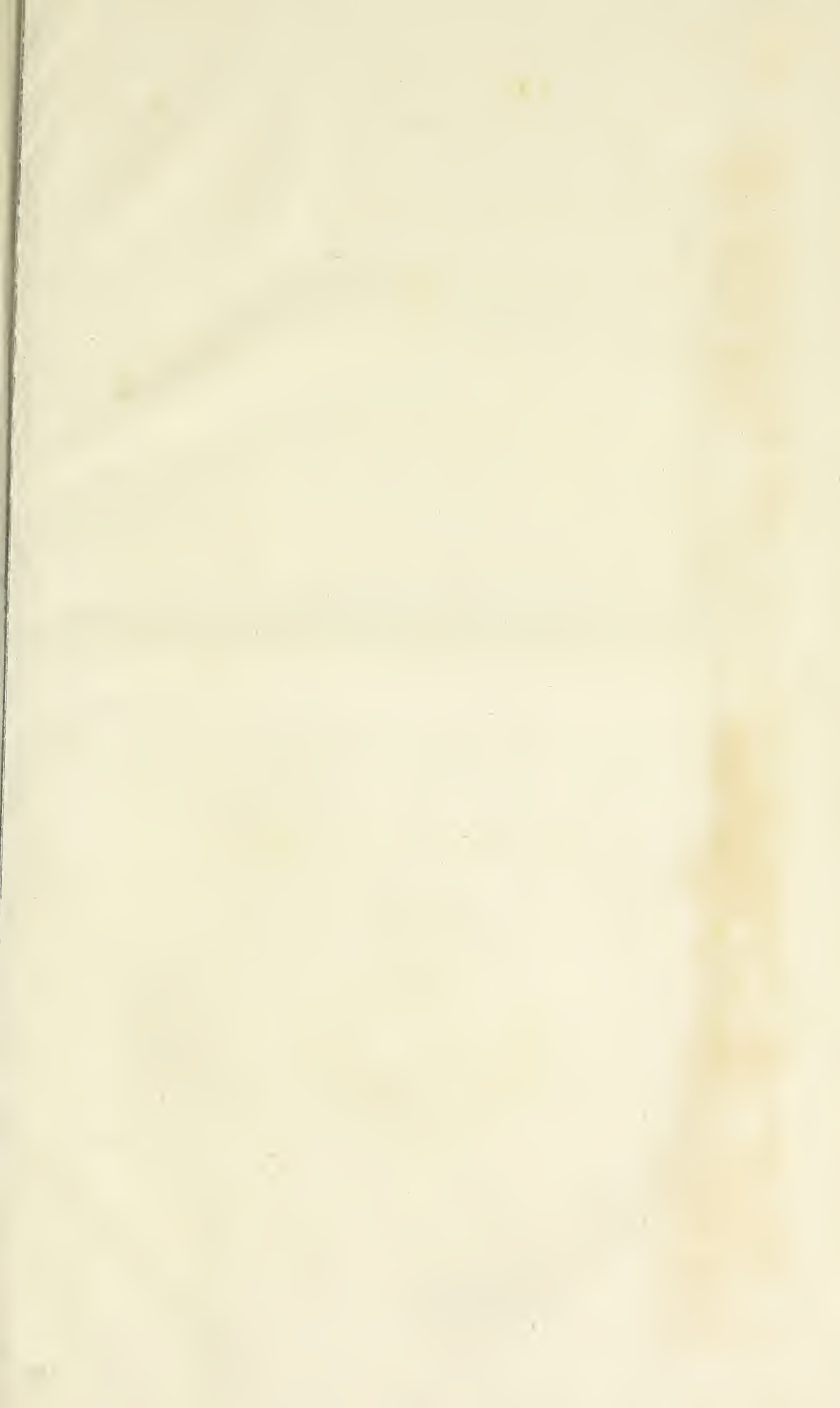
P. 372, last l. Appuldurcombe is now become the property of a niece of Sir Richard Worsley's, that gentleman having died intestate during the present month, August.

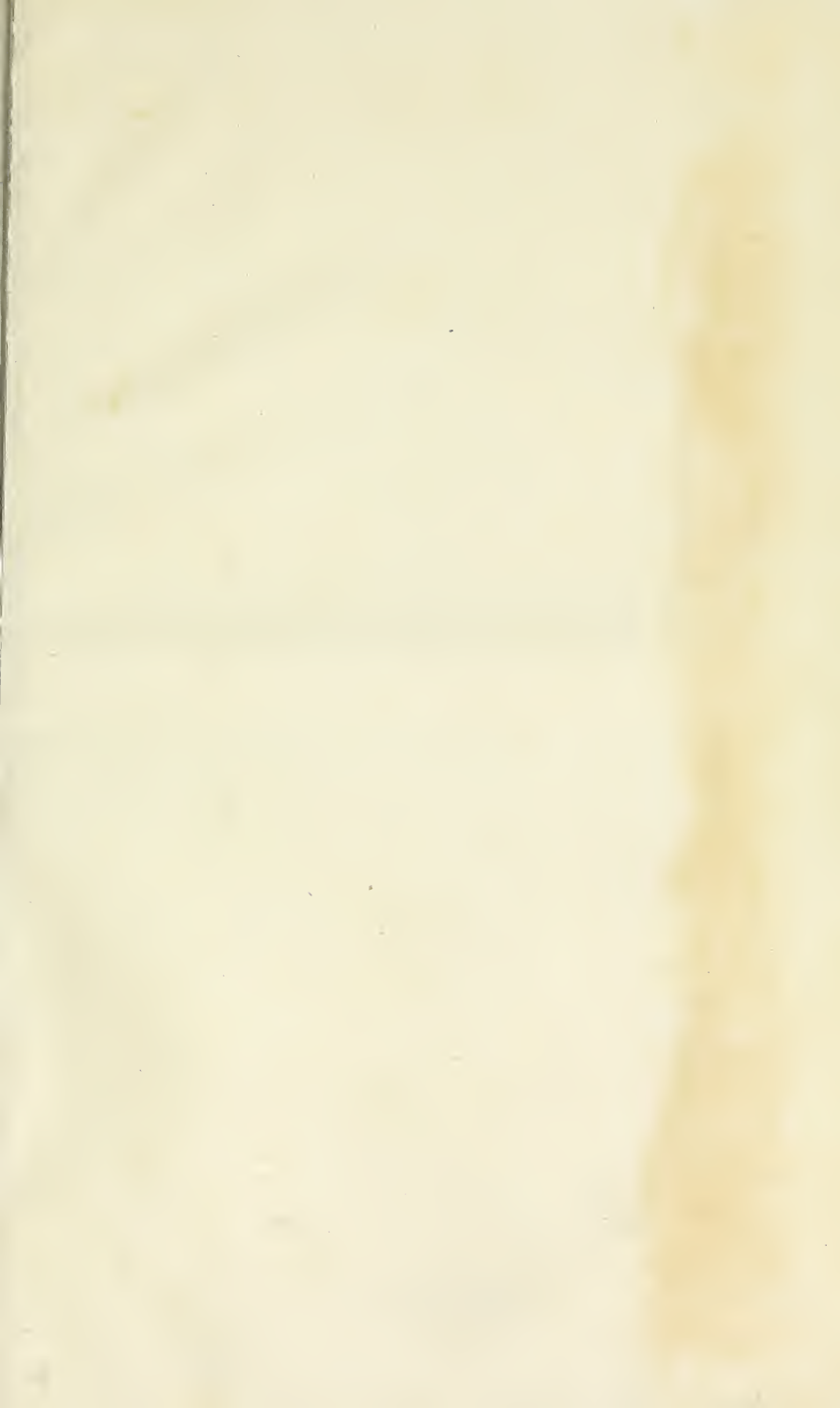
P. 496, l. 28, *for* 1668, *read* 1568.

P. 499, l. 26, Garrick was born in the year 1716, as appears by the following extract from the Register of All Saints Parish, in Hereford City. "David, son of Peter and Arabella Garrick, was baptized 28th February, 1716. H. Lewis, Minister."

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